US to send experts to check on Naia security

STORY ON PAGE A2

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WITH THIS ISSUE
All about élan

- HSBC and Achieving Moms
- Joys in Smocking
- The New Filipina Mother
- Timbuktu

US poised to strike

'We'll win first war of the 21st century'

WASHINGTON—The United States will respond to the terrorist attacks on New York and Washington with a sustained military campaign, Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz said Thursday.

"One thing that is clear is you don't do it with just a single military strike, no matter how dramatic," he told reporters at the Pentagon.

Wolfowitz would not say what US military strikes might target or discuss specific military options.

"We're going to keep after these people and the people who support them until this stops," he said.

President George W. Bush called the war against terrorists "the first war of the 21st century."

"Now that war has been declared on us, we will lead the world to victory," Bush said.

With the US defense department poring over options for war, Bush will activate up to 50,000 members of the National Guard and Reserve to aid recovery and security efforts, the Associated Press reported.

Wolfowitz said part of the $20 billion in emergency funds Bush was seeking from Congress would be used to strengthen US military readiness for the fight against terrorism.

He could not specify how much.

Another portion will pay the mounting costs of combat air patrols that have been flying over major American cities since the Tuesday attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

Secretary of State Colin Powell identified Osama bin Laden, an exiled Saudi national in Afghanistan, as a prime suspect in the attacks, saying he would press neighboring Pakistan for information on his operations.

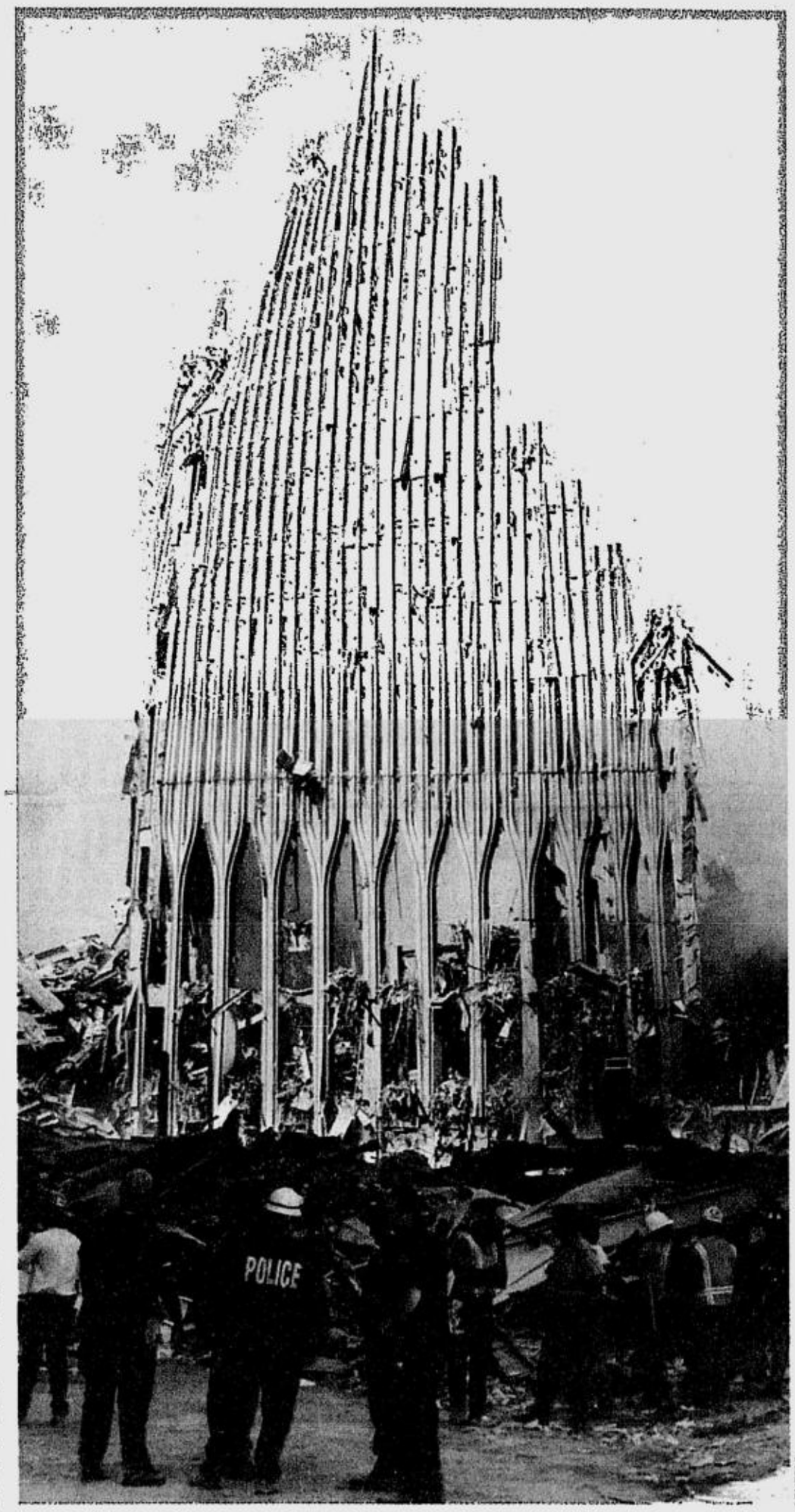
The US urged Pakistan Thursday to close its border with Afghanistan and to cut off funding for terrorist groups, a senior official said.

Bin Laden operates in Afghanistan with sanctuary provided by the Taliban, the country's fundamentalist Muslim leadership.

Powell said, "We will go after that group, that network and those that have harbored, supported and aided that network, to rip that network up."

"When we are through with that network, we will continue with a global assault against terrorism in general," he said.

US POISED/ A4



AFTER THE DUST of the twin terrorist attacks settled, this piece of wall is what remains of what was once the towering symbol of American economic might—the twin towers of the World Trade Center. REUTERS

US readies $40 billion vs terrorism

WASHINGTON—White House officials and leaders of the US Congress agreed early Friday to final details of a $40-billion package to combat terrorism and recover from the Tuesday attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

Determined to show a united front, the US Senate later in the day approved the use of "necessary and appropriate force" against the people responsible for the strikes.

The $40-billion figure was double what President George W. Bush had requested in emergency appropriations to deal with the crisis.

Two new opinion polls—conducted by NBC News and CBS News—showed that Americans overwhelmingly supported Bush's handling of the terrorist crisis and "strongly" backed military action against those responsible for the attacks.

House Speaker Dennis Hastert, a Republican, said the two sides agreed to drop earlier language opposed by some lawmakers that would also have approved use of force by Bush to "deter and preempt any related future acts of terrorism or aggression against the United States."

Those opposed said that would have gone too far in eliminating Congress' role in future incidents.

US READIES/ A16

PRESIDENT BUSH: Hugging and crying with New Yorkers. REUTERS

Bush hails, condoles with New Yorkers

AS THE heartrending search through the graveyard of the World Trade Center continued, US President George W. Bush promised to visit New York on Friday to "hug and cry" with its shaken citizens.

Bush declared Friday a "national day of prayer and remembrance," asking Americans to spend their lunch breaks taking part in services at their chosen places of worship, White House spokesperson Ari Fleischer said.

The president praised New Yorkers for showing "the compassion of America and the bravery of America."

Most of the world mourned with

BUSH/ A17

More than 5,000 dead and missing

NEW YORK—The numbers, as they filtered in, were numbing.

More than 5,000 people were declared dead or missing in preliminary tolls Thursday after the terrorist attacks on the United States, but it was cruelly clear so many bodies had been destroyed that a final precise figure will not be possible.

New York's Mayor Rudy Giuliani told a news conference on Thursday morning that 4,763 people were missing in the World Trade Center disaster, but the number could rise.

New York was not alone in counting its missing and dead. In Washington, Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld told an American TV network, referring to the death toll at the Pentagon: "It is clear to me the number is going to be between 200 and 250."

MORE/ A16

2 black boxes found; suspected hijackers held

AS UNITED States investigators pressed to identify terrorist collaborators who may still be in a position to strike more Americans, agents located critical "black boxes" from two of Tuesday's hijacked planes.

Both black boxes from a hijacked jetliner that crashed into the Pentagon were found by searchers in the rubble on Friday, a Pentagon official said.

Investigators also recovered a black box flight recorder from the hijacked plane that went down in Pennsylvania.

"The flight data and voice data recorders have been turned over to the FAA (Federal Aviation Administration)," Bryan Whitman, a Pentagon spokesperson, said.

The boxes could be instrumental in getting information about the short flight of the American Airlines jetliner that was commandeered by hijackers shortly after it left nearby Dulles International Airport en route to Los Angeles.

Authorities said they had learned of the 18 men who hijacked the four planes that crashed

2 BLACK/ A16

NY hijacker was in Manila, casing US Embassy

BY MARTIN P. MARFIL, STELLA O. GONZALES AND TJ BURGONIO

US AUTHORITIES believe that a hijacker who took over one of the four planes used in the terrorist attacks in their country is the same man questioned days earlier by Philippine authorities, Malacañang announced yesterday.

Rigoberto Tiglao, spokesperson for President Macapagal-Arroyo, told reporters that the supposed hijacker was one of three men held in a raid at the Bayview Hotel in Manila and subsequently released. But he did not disclose to reporters the man's identity or the particular plane used.

In Tokyo, where she was winding up her four-day state visit, the President said Philippine police and the US Central Intelligence Agency were working together in gathering evidence in connection with the attacks in New York and Washington, D.C.

She told members of the Japan National Press Club that one such joint operation concerned three men carrying Omani passports who were questioned last week by Philippine police at the Bayview for taking video footage of the US Embassy compound on Roxas Boulevard.

The President described the operation as "a gathering of evidence" that occurred "when I was away."

She gave no other details, saying these were confidential. But she said no arrests were made.

The President left Manila for Japan on Wednesday afternoon.

At the Ninoy Aquino International Airport, the brother of a pilot arrested Wednesday in Venice, Florida, in connection with the Tuesday attacks was held for questioning yesterday afternoon.

Immigration officers held Mohammad Bokhari, himself a pilot of Saudia Airlines, shortly before he was to fly a plane to Jeddah

NY/ A17

Ilocano mother among victims

BY KIRA ESPINO, TJ BURGONIO AND JHUNNEX NAPALLACAN

LAOAG CITY—"I don't want to go to the US to work anymore. I will not bring my children there. We will stay here at home," Cesar Gabriel yesterday said after he learned that his common-law wife was among those killed at the World Trade Center in New York.

The body of Benilda Domingo, a native of Barangay Sta. Maria here, was among those recovered by rescuers from the collapsed towers of the WTC. She worked as utility worker in one of the buildings of the WTC.

Gabriel, 50, got the news from Domingo's sister Melita, who also worked at the WTC. Melita, however, survived because she called in sick.

Another Filipino was killed on Tuesday. He was on the American Airlines plane that slammed into the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) said yesterday.

The fatality was identified as Ruben Ornedo, 39, of Eagle Rock.

He was the second Filipino to be confirmed dead. The first was Ronald Gamboa, 33, of West Hol-

ILOCANO/ A4

Moratorium on House probes? Unthinkable

BY VOLT CONTRERAS

AFTER declaring that the "Gang of 5" in the House of Representatives does not exist, Speaker Jose de Venecia has proposed a six-month moratorium on House investigations.

That, for most congressmen used to their role as investigators, is unthinkable. It's like "shutting down" the House of Representatives, they said.

"If the House is muzzled, only the real extortionists outside its halls . . . will rejoice," said Rep. Abraham

MORATORIUM/ A16

Second FRONT PAGE

US body to review Naia security

BY TJ BURGONIO

THE UNITED States Federal Aviation Authority will be sending its own people to the Philippines to check on airport security even as authorities moved to put counter-terrorist measures in place in the wake of the terrorist attacks in New York and Washington.

Edgardo Manda, manager of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport, said two representatives from the FAA will be arriving this week to oversee the Naia's implementation of safety standards set by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

"They will be observing security checks at the airport, particularly those imposed by US-bound airlines," said Manda, who met with US Embassy officials about the matter the other day.

He said the FAA representatives will also be looking at Naia's security equipment, including its X-ray machines.

The Air Force, meanwhile, has dispatched its counter-terrorism units to airports all over the country to beef up police forces securing these facilities.

Deployed at the airports is the Special Operations Wing with its bomb-sniffing canine units and its explosives ordnance disposal squadron.

Air Force Chief Lt. Gen. Benjamin Defensor said in a statement that he would make available to the Air Transportation Office a select team of airmen trained in counter-urban terrorism to preempt or contain a hijack attempt.

"The frightening reality is the terrorists' growing preference for aviation as a means to surprise and devastate," said Defensor.

Manda confirmed plans to deploy air marshals in domestic flights starting this week.

He said international airlines will be asked if they wanted to adopt the practice, noting that the US-based Northwest Airlines has its own marshals.

Manda said the airport would be implementing new measures to cope with the emergency, among them employing more people to ensure that all gates are manned and getting more X-ray machines.

Part of the latest security measures is a ban against carrying knives, matches, lighters, magnets, bullets, grenades, radioactive materials, thermometers, gasoline, fire extinguishers, pyrotechnics and batteries.

The airport manager said he foresees chaos and confusion at the Naia when flights to the US resume in a few days.

"I'm sure that there will be jams. Everything will be in chaos," he said.

Philippine Airlines, Northwest Airlines and Continental Micronesia canceled US-bound flights for the third day yesterday after the FAA again ordered all US airports closed to international flights late Thursday.

As of yesterday, 14 flights of the three airlines had been canceled, leaving an estimated 5,000 outgoing passengers stranded in Manila.

After briefly opening US air traffic, the FAA again closed down all US airports following the arrest of seven US nationals of Arab descent for possession of fake pilot licenses, the Philippine consul-general in New York reported.

Consul General Joseph Gerald Angeles said the FAA closed the airports following the arrest on Thursday night of seven Arab-Americans at the JFK and La Guardia airports in New York and Newark airport in New Jersey.

"The authorities still don't know yet if their motive was to hijack or to flee," Angeles said in an interview over dzMM.

In Congress, Negros Occidental Rep. Apolinario J. Lozada warned that laxness at the country's airports and terminals may be exploited by terrorists to launch attacks on US interests and facilities here.

Lozada, chair of the House committee on foreign relations, said the attacks on New York and Washington early this week showed "that there is now a new breed of suicide pilots who are capable of wreaking havoc in any part of the world."

"If they were able to do it to a superpower, they could do it anywhere," Lozada added.

He said authorities needed to take precautions as the Philippines may have already drawn the ire of international terrorists for taking a pro-US position after the attacks. ***With reports from Carlito Pablo and Rocky Nazareno***

US cites RP support

BY JULIET JAVELLANA

UNITED States Secretary of State Colin Powell yesterday telephoned Vice President Teofisto Guingona Jr. to thank the Philippines for the early expression of sympathy and support for his government's campaign against terrorism.

"(Powell) called up Vice President Guingona this morning thanking our government for the expression of support and condolences and Secretary of State Powell was very grateful that we came out very early with our expression of support for the international coalition," presidential spokesperson Rigoberto Tiglao said.

As further expressions of sympathy to the victims of the terrorist attacks, President Macapagal-Arroyo declared Sept. 16, Sunday, as a "national day of mourning and solidarity against terrorism (and) in deep sympathy with the American people and all humanity."

The President had earlier issued a memorandum circular for Philippine flags to be flown at half-mast in all government buildings here and Philippine embassies abroad from Sept. 12-18.

Executive Secretary Alberto Romulo said the President urged all Filipinos to attend Mass in churches or worship in mosques on Sunday to pray for the victims and for an end to terrorism.

"Believing the path of peace is through prayers, I call on our countrymen to go to their churches, mosques and other places of worship on Sunday, Sept. 16, to pray to the Almighty for the victims and to help the world end this scourge of terrorism," Ms Macapagal said.

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US Charges d'Affaires Michael Malinowski receives white flowers from Bishop Socrates Villegas during a Mass held at the Edsa Shrine for the victims of the terrorist attacks in the United States. Behind the American diplomat is former President Corazon Aquino. EDWIN BACASMAS

Abus, MILF, MNLF all got help from Bin Laden–AFP

ZAMBOANGA CITY—A ranking military official said there is no difference between the Abu Sayyaf, the Moro Islamic Liberation Front and even the Moro National Liberation Front as far as terrorism is concerned.

Col. Francisco Gudani, deputy commander of the AFP Southern Command based here, said there is a common personality behind the three groups and that is international terrorist Osama bin Laden.

"There is no difference between these groups," Gudani said.

He claimed Bin Laden provided funds to the three organizations through the World Muslim League, a Saudi-based missionary organization.

He said Bin Laden even visited these groups in the past.

"In fact, we have a report that Bin Laden even visited the Philippines through his ties with (these groups)," he said.

Another military commander based in Basilan said confirmation about the relationship between the MNLF, the MILF and the Abu Sayyaf was even strengthened following the kidnapping crisis in the South in the past months.

Col. Renato Miranda, commander of the 3rd Marine Battalion in Sumisip, Basilan, said the MILF commanders gave protection to Abu Sayyaf leader Khadaffy Janjalani during a clash on Aug. 22.

Amir Mingkong, reported to be a ranking MILF leader, allegedly took custody of Martin and Gracia Burnham, the American missionaries taken by the Abu Sayyaf from the Dos Palmas Resort in Palawan Island in May.

Malaysians barred from RP not arrested

KUALA LUMPUR—Law enforcement officials yesterday said that the Philippines had not requested the arrest of nine Malaysians who were denied entry into the Philippines by suspicious customs officials.

The nine had all been in Pakistan recently for periods long enough to have included terrorism training, Philippine officials said.

The men were ethnic Malay Muslims with Malaysian passports and were flown back to Kuala Lumpur after being turned away from Cebu international airport, a Malaysian official said on condition of anonymity.

Casimiro Madarang, chief of the immigration bureau at Cebu airport, said the nine had recently been in Pakistan an average of five months, which he considered as enough time for terrorism training, so they were barred from entering the Philippines.

Malaysian immigration officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the men were not arrested upon returning to Kuala Lumpur because the Philippines had not requested such action.

Under normal procedures, the officials said, unless the Philippines notified Malaysia to arrest specific individuals, Philippine immigration officials and the airline would simply arrange their transport home.

A Malaysia Airlines spokesperson said the carrier would normally transport passengers who had been refused entry into another country back to their point of origin, as long as their travel documents were in order. *AP*

Masses, novenas for peace

BY NORMAN BORDADORA

THE CATHOLIC Bishops' Conference of the Philippines yesterday announced the holding of nationwide Masses, novenas and sacrifices for peace as the world is gripped with tension caused by the terrorist attacks on the United States early this week.

Archbishop Orlando Quevedo, president of the CBCP, has asked the archdioceses and dioceses nationwide to hold the novenas starting today, Sept. 15 or the feast of Our Lady of Sorrows.

The novena, or a nine-day series of prayers, for peace would end on Sept. 23.

"We are calling for prayers for peace because of the world tension brought about by the terrorist attacks on New York and Washington, DC," Quevedo said.

Quevedo said the Masses and novena would be for the following specific petitions:

- That the victims may find solace and comfort in the Lord;
- That the hearts of those behind the terrorist attacks and those that are planning more violence may return to God;
- That the nations of the world unite to come up with just and effective solutions for problems that cause terrorism; and that the God of justice, peace and love continue to reign among us.

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Gloria fails to get cash aid for 'sex slaves'

BY STELLA O. GONZALES

TOKYO (via PLDT)—Filipinas forced to work as sex slaves for the Japanese army during World War II would have to wait longer to receive cash compensation for their suffering.

President Macapagal-Arroyo failed to get any tangible commitment from the Japanese government regarding the payment of direct compensation to "comfort women."

What she only got was an assurance from Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi that "he will continue to be interested in the issue" even as the Asian Women's Fund is scheduled to end this December.

Ms Macapagal said Koizumi "expressed his regrets, the regrets of the Japanese people" about the sex slaves.

Koizumi will also be writing letters of regret, the same ones then Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi had written in 1999.

Ms Macapagal and Koizumi held a bilateral meeting at the Prime Minister's residence on Thursday and one issue discussed was that of the comfort women. Ms Macapagal said it was Koizumi himself who initiated the discussion on the issue.

The President said she told Koizumi that maybe they could work on "some innovative ways" by which "we could continue to give comfort to these women who are already quite old and there are very few left" when the Asian Women's Fund ends in December.

"I said I hope that in the twilight of their years they can live a more comfortable life," she told Manila-based reporters who covered her four-day visit to Japan.

Ms Macapagal said Koizumi was "very, very sympathetic."

"There was no semblance of false pride (in him) at all," she added.

Asked if she thinks what Koizumi had assured her could already be considered as the compensation comfort women are demanding for, the President said: "How much more explicit can you be than this?"

She was referring to the letter Koizumi was planning to write and the possible substitute to the Asian Women's Fund (AWF).

Tokyo set up the AWF in 1995 to make cash payments to surviving wartime sex slaves. The AWF is funded partly by the Japanese government and partly by donations from Japanese citizens, former soldiers and their families.

A Japanese court had rejected in December a lawsuit filed by 46 Filipino comfort women who were demanding $8.4-million cash compensation (outside of the AWF) as an acknowledgement that the Japanese army had violated international treaties when it made them sex slaves.

RP readies plan to bring home 1M Filipinos

THE GOVERNMENT has prepared a plan to evacuate more than 1 million Filipinos working or living in the Middle East should violence break out after the United States declared a war on terrorism following Tuesday's devastating attacks on New York and Washington.

Presidential Spokesperson Rigoberto Tiglao said the government has in the past few days updated "Oplan Aquila," a contingency plan that has been in place since 1995, in case war breaks out in the Middle East.

"We assure our overseas workers in the Middle East that this government is prepared to ensure their safety and evacuation in case of an emergency," he said.

The US has not named the target of its expected counter-strike against the perpetrators of the worst terrorist attacks in its history but many Middle East countries are expected to be included.

More than 1 million overseas Filipinos work in all 11 Middle East countries.

The US government has blamed Saudi dissident billionaire Osama bin Laden, who is said to be based in Afghanistan, for the bloody attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, and has pledged to hit back.

Labor Undersecretary Manuel Imson yesterday briefed the Cabinet oversight committee on the evacuation plan.

The committee, headed by Vice President Teofisto Guingona Jr. and Executive Secretary Alberto Romulo, has taken charge of the country's affairs while President Macapagal-Arroyo is in Japan on an official working visit. She is due to return this afternoon.

Imson told the committee that Oplan Aquila involves evacuation plans for various Middle East countries where sizeable numbers of Filipinos work in skilled or semi-skilled jobs and provide medical and other professional services.

Estimates by Philippine missions show that a total of 1,005,127 Filipinos work in the whole of the Middle East.

The biggest number is in Saudi Arabia which hosts 750,000, or 74.6 percent of the total. The United Arab Emirates has 103,782 Filipino workers or 10.9 percent; Kuwait, 35,000 or 3.4 percent; Qatar, 32,000 or 3.1 percent; the Sultanate of Oman, 24,834 or 2.4 percent; Bahrain, 21,000 or 2 percent; Lebanon, 16,495 or 1.6 percent; Libya, 12,000 or 1.1 percent; Israel, 9,439; Iran, 500 and Iraq, 77.

They are employed by both Arab and non-Arab entities.

Tiglao said the evacuation would be made through commercial flights. In previous Middle East crises, the government dispatched military C-130 cargo planes to evacuate the workers.

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Estrada lawyers want 2 justices out

BY DONNA S. CUETO

LAWYERS of former President Joseph Estrada yesterday sought the inhibition of two of three Sandiganbayan justices hearing the plunder case for alleged bias against the accused.

This time, not only did they ask for the inhibition of Associate Justice Anacleto Badoy Jr., chair of the anti-graft court's Third Division whom they had already asked to inhibit at least twice, but also that of Associate Justice Teresita Leonardo-De Castro.

The two had ordered Estrada's lead counsel, former senator Rene Saguisag, to be thrown out of court Thursday after he stood up to ask a copy of the 30-page pre-trial order, at the middle of a heated argument between the court and another Estrada lawyer, former Justice Secretary Serafin Cuevas.

This development came about as the court set new trial dates for the plunder case. After the hearing yesterday, it opted to have only three trial dates in October—Oct. 1, 17 and 18—instead of the original schedule of holding trial thrice a week starting next month.

Saguisag yesterday said he would not apologize to the court because it was he who had been wronged by the court.

"What should I ask forgiveness for?" Saguisag said before the hearing, after Ombudsman Aniano Desierto advised him to just apologize to the court.

"Tell me, what wrong did I do? I was thrown out without due process. My human rights were violated," he said.

Justice De Castro, after the resumption of hearings at 5:15 p.m. on Thursday, said that Saguisag, whom she had earlier ordered thrown out of court, should have returned to the court during the resumption of the hearings, and apologize.

Saguisag did not return to the court Thursday. He did return to the court yesterday, but only to say that he might not be appearing anymore as counsel for Estrada in the plunder case if the court would insist on holding hearings thrice a week.

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Court OKs release of top NPA

BY A.T.ECHAVEZ

A NEW People's Army commander walked out of prison yesterday after the Quezon City Regional Trial Court ordered his release on recognizance.

Leoncio Pitao, alias Ka Parago Sandoval, was released to the custody of Philippine Independent Church Supreme Bishop Tomas Millamena at about 3 p.m. yesterday.

The rebel leader had been in the custody of the Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (Isafp) since his arrest in Mindanao about two years ago.

Human rights advocates hailed Pitao's release as a "victory for political prisoners."

Marie Hilao-Enriquez, secretary general of the human rights group Karapatan, also urged the government to release the other political prisoners.

"In continuity of goodwill measures for the peace talks, we urge the Macapagal-Arroyo administration to finally free the remaining 14 political prisoners that the President approved to release last February 2001, and likewise promptly process the release of another 40 approved for release last August 2001," Enriquez said.

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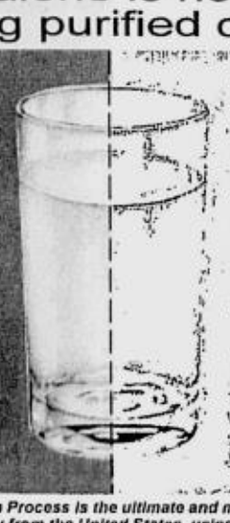
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US poised to strike

(From page A1)

"We are looking at those terrorist organizations who have the kind of capacity that would have been necessary to conduct the kind of attack that we saw," Powell said.

Powell noted that the administration was not on the record with the identity of the organization it believed responsible and added: "When you look at the list of candidates, one resides in the region."

After the news conference, Powell telephoned President Gen. Pervez Musharraf of Pakistan to seek "a specific list of things that we think would be useful for them to work on with us."

After they talked for nearly 10 minutes, State Department spokesperson Richard Boucher said they had had a positive conversation and Powell had received a commitment of cooperation.

Musharraf said in a statement after a late-night meeting Wednesday with his military, "The world must unite to fight terrorism."

"I wish to assure President Bush and the US government of our unstinted cooperation in the fight against terrorism," he said.

Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage met separately with the Pakistani ambassador to Washington, Maleeha Lodhi, and the South Asian country's intelligence chief, Mahmoud Ahmed.

Armitage gave them a list of what the US wants from Pakistan, which includes information on terror networks, and specifying a number of areas where Pakistan can be helpful, a senior US official said.

Powell's statements indicated the US could strike Afghanistan if it concludes Bin Laden was behind the attacks.

But Bin Laden moved to a new hiding place within minutes of the terrorist onslaught in the US, refusing to tell anyone where he was going or where he had been when the attacks occurred, sources in Pakistan's intelligence service said.

Iraq's role in helping the terror network also is under scrutiny, a US official told The Associated Press.

Powell would not discuss a connection to Baghdad but spoke scornfully of President Saddam Hussein as "one of the leading terrorists on the face of the Earth."

Meanwhile, Armitage scheduled a trip to Moscow on Wednesday for a meeting on Afghanistan and to follow up on a Russian offer to help in the investigation.

The Soviet Union fought a 10-year war with Muslim fundamentalists after invading Afghanistan and setting up a puppet government in 1979. The US opposed the Soviet invasion and provided weapons to the insurgents through Pakistan.

The Central Asian countries that formed the underbelly of the Soviet Union have emerged as the battleground for an Islamic insurgency aided by Afghanistan that threatens to destabilize the region.

Wolfowitz praised Congress for uniting in support of the funding.

"It's a message to friends and adversaries alike that this is a completely different ball game that we're in now," he said.

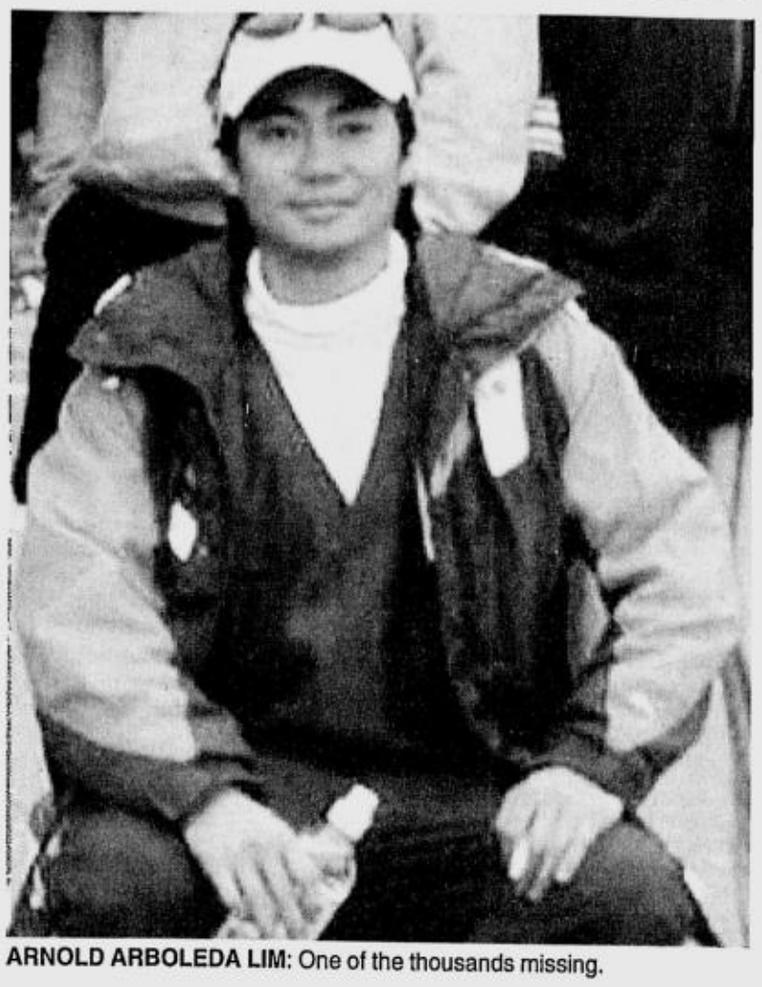
Despite the focus on military action, Wolfowitz said the anti-terrorism campaign the President planned to direct would be multifaceted.

"These people try to hide. They won't be able to hide forever," Wolfowitz said. "They think their harbors are safe, but they won't be safe forever. One has to say it's not just simply a matter of capturing people and holding them accountable, but removing the sanctuaries, removing the support systems, ending states who sponsor terrorism."

In order for the Bush administration to achieve its goal of eradicating terrorism, there must be a military buildup over the next year or longer, Wolfowitz said.

Since Tuesday's terrorist attacks, there have been several reports from Kandahar of Arab nationals moving out of the area, presumably to avoid US retaliation.

In Kabul, the Afghan capital, where Arab nationals have become increasingly visible in recent months, several Arab families have been seen loading their belongings into vehicles and leaving. *AP*



ARNOLD ARBOLEDA LIM: One of the thousands missing.

Ilocano mother among victims

(From page A1)

lywood, who was killed after their hijacked United Airlines plane crashed into the WTC.

Eight more Filipinos were confirmed missing in connection with the terrorist attacks on the WTC, Joseph Gerald Angeles, Philippine consul general to New York, reported to the DFA office in Manila.

They were identified as Carl Allen Peralta, Jayceryll de Chavez, Marlyn Bautista, Renato Bonivacio, Maritess Santillan, Judy Fernandez, Joanna Vidal and Frederick Kuo.

"Most of them are workers at the World Trade Center while the rest are residents in nearby buildings," Angeles said in an interview over dzMM. "They could have been in the office, visiting someone, doing business or simply touring the area."

Peralta, 37, works for the Fitzgerald Securities as an assistant to the vice president, which has an office at the 102nd floor of one of the towers.

Those earlier identified as missing were Grace Alegre Cua; Hector Tamayo; Arnold Arboleda Lim; Cynthia Betia; Ramon Grihalvo; Benilda Domingo; Nectar Laurel-Galang and Cynthia Wilson.

Lim, 29, a business analyst for the Fiduciary Trust Co., had plans to wed his fiancée, Michele Leung, in September next year, according to his relatives.

Children

Gabriel said Domingo went to the US last year to support her children Yvonne, 6; Lucky Angel, 4; and Daryl, 13, who are living with their grandmother in Hawaii.

He said he watched on television the collapse of the building but had no inkling that it was the WTC because of the thick smoke.

Gabriel was stunned when he heard from a local radio report that it was the WTC that collapsed, killing thousands of people.

Relatives lit candles in Domingo's house in Barangay Sta. Maria here.

The victim's dental records were sent to the US on Thursday for identification.

Gabriel is expected to fly to New York to claim the body and bury it here.

Unlike Gabriel, close relatives of Boholana Monique Sarmiento, 30, a supervisor of one of the departments of the Stanley Smith Solomon Brothers, which held office at the south tower, need not go to New York to claim her remains. She is alive.

Sarmiento's relatives thought that she was among the thousands who died during the terrorist attacks on the twin towers.

Mother's delight

To her mother's surprise and delight, Monique managed to get out of the 67th floor of the south tower, just minutes before it crumbled.

Her mother, Linda, said it was a miracle that her daughter made it to safety because they were already resigned to the possibility that she might be one of those trapped in the rubble.

"We are very happy because we did not expect that she is still alive," she said.

Linda said her daughter believed that it was her father who gave her direction amid the pandemonium that broke out that fateful day. Her father died last Christmas.

"At that time, (Monique) felt there was somebody who was guiding her, telling her where to go. She told me that it was her father who was telling her what to do," Linda said in Cebuano.

Linda recalled that she was watching the Cable News Network (CNN) about 8:45 p.m. of Tuesday when news of the terrorist attacks broke out.

She started to cry when she saw the commercial planes crashing into the towers.

Linda said she immediately called Monique but her daughter could not be reached. She asked her other daughter, who was also living in New York, but was told that Monique's cell phone just kept ringing.

It was then Linda and her children started to think that Monique might be among those trapped.

It was about 1:30 a.m. on Wednesday when the telephone rang in the Sarmiento residence in Tagbilaran City. The call came from Monique.

Linda said Monique told her that she saw the commercial plane hitting the north tower of the WTC.

When she looked through the glass window of her office, Monique saw that another plane was flying toward the south tower.

At that moment, Monique decided she had to get out of the building. When she got out of the building, Monique looked up and saw the plane crashing into the south tower.

Linda said Monique just ran without direction after hearing a deafening explosion.

Monique just kept on running until she reached the Hudson River where she realized that she had minor cuts all over her body and her dress was torn from the glass fragments.

Monique was among the few employees of Stanley Smith Solomon Brothers who survived the attacks. A total 209 of her co-employees were still missing.

She graduated from the University of San Carlos-Cebu and went to New York in 1988 where she finished her masteral degree.

She was the eighth of 12 siblings. Her other siblings were either in New York, London or Hong Kong.

Another Filipino recalled his escape from the WTC.

That terrible Tuesday started out as "an ordinary Tuesday for me," Alan Ocampo said.

A web developer/programmer working as a consultant for Morgan Stanley, Alan said he "was at work at the usual time, around 8 a.m., on the 68th floor of the World Trade Center 2 building."

Forty-five minutes into his workday, "a loud explosion was heard outside our building. It sounded like a bomb went off."

Unmindful

Alan was initially "unmindful of the event." He figured out that a plane had crashed into Tower 1 of the WTC, but believed it to be an accident. However, when he saw three people jump out of the damaged area to their deaths, "that started a bit of panic in me."

Alan said an announcement over the public address system "reassured me that we were safe. The announcement confirmed that an airplane crashed into WTC1 but we were unaffected and that WTC2 was secure."

A few minutes later, the second plane crashed into Tower 2.

"This time I felt it was a direct hit on our building. I felt the floor shake like there was an earthquake. I was terrified. I thought anytime the floor under me would collapse and open and 'swallow' me.

"I thought the end for me was near. This time I had no time to think but had to act on instinct—survival instinct. It took only a few seconds for me to grab my knapsack and run toward the door.

Alan quickly followed another person heading toward the stairs. "We were both in a panic and raced down the stairs as fast as we could." *With a report from Evangeline Santos*

Republic of the Philippines
Supreme Court
Manila

EN BANC

A. M. No. 00-8-10-SC. - Re: Transfer of Cases from the Securities and Exchange Commission to the Regional Trial Courts.

RESOLUTION

CLARIFICATION ON THE LEGAL FEES TO BE COLLECTED AND THE APPLICABLE PERIOD OF APPEAL IN CASES FORMERLY COGNIZABLE BY THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION.

Clarification has been sought on the legal fees to be collected and the period of appeal applicable in cases formerly cognizable by the Securities and Exchange Commission. It appears that the Interim Rules of Procedure on Corporate Rehabilitation and the Interim Rules of Procedure for Intra-Corporate Controversies do not provide the basis for the assessment of filing fees and the period of appeal in cases transferred from the Securities and Exchange Commission to particular Regional Trial Courts.

The nature of the above mentioned cases should first be ascertained. Section 3(a), Rule 1 of the 1997 Rules of Civil Procedure defines civil action as one by which a party sues another for the enforcement or protection of a right, or the prevention or redress of a wrong. It further states that a civil action may either be ordinary or special, both being governed by the rules for ordinary civil actions subject to the special rules prescribed for special civil actions. Section 3(c) of the same Rule, defines a special proceeding as a remedy by which a party seeks to establish a status, a right, or a particular fact.

Applying these definitions, the cases covered by the Interim Rules for Intra-Corporate Controversies should be considered as ordinary civil actions. These cases either seek the recovery of damages/property or specific performance of an act against a party for the violation or protection of a right. These cases are:

(1) Devices or schemes employed by, or any act of, the board of directors, business associates, officers or partners, amounting to fraud or misrepresentation which may be detrimental to the interest of the public and/or of the stockholders, partners, or members of any corporation, partnership, or association;
(2) Controversies arising out of intra-corporate, partnership, or association relations, between and among stockholders, members or associates; and between, any or all of them and the corporation, partnership, or association of which they are stockholders, members, or associates, respectively;
(3) Controversies in the election or appointment of directors, trustees, officers, or managers of corporations, partnerships, or associations;
(4) Derivative suits; and
(5) Inspection of corporate books.

On the other hand, a petition for rehabilitation, the procedure for which is provided in the Interim Rules of Procedure on Corporate Recovery, should be considered as a special proceeding. It is one that seeks to establish the status of a party or a particular fact. As provided in section I, Rule 4 of the Interim Rules on Corporate Recovery, the status or fact sought to be established is the inability of the corporate debtor to pay its debts when they fall due so that a rehabilitation plan, containing the formula for the successful recovery of the corporation, may be approved in the end. It does not seek a relief from an injury caused by another party.

Section 7 of Rule 141 (Legal Fees) of the Revised Rules of Court lays the amount of filing fees to be assessed for actions or proceedings filed with the Regional Trial Court. Section 7(a) and (b) apply to ordinary civil actions while 7(d) and (g) apply to special proceedings.

In fine, the basis for computing the filing fees in intra-corporate cases shall be section 7(a) and (b) 1 & 3 of Rule 141. For petitions for rehabilitation, section 7(d) shall be applied.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, cases involving intra-corporate disputes and petitions for rehabilitation shall be entered, recorded and docketed in a single and special docket book separate from civil actions and special proceedings.

As a reminder to the judges and clerks of court, the fees collected shall be allocated between the General Fund and the Judiciary Development Fund in accordance with the guidelines prescribed in Administrative Order No. 3 - 2000.

Following the discussion above, the period of appeal provided in section 3, Rule 41 of the 1997 Rules of Civil Procedure for ordinary civil actions shall apply to cases involving intra-corporate disputes. Corollarily, the period of appeal provided in paragraph 19(b) of the Interim Rules Relative to the Implementation of B.P. Blg. 129 for special proceedings shall apply to petitions for rehabilitation.

This resolution shall take effect on October 1, 2001, fifteen (15) days after its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Promulgated this 4th day of September 2001.

HILARIO G. DAVIDE, JR.
Chief of Justice

JOSUE N. BELLOSILLO
Associate Justice

JOSE A.R. MELO
Associate Justice

REYNATO S. PUNO
Associate Justice

JOSE C. VITUG
Associate Justice

SANTIAGO M. KAPUNAN
Associate Justice

VICENTE V. MENDOZA
Associate Justice

ARTEMIO V. PANGANIBAN
Associate Justice

LEONARDO A. QUISUMBING
Associate Justice

BERNARDO P. PARDO
Associate Justice

ARTURO B. BUENA
Associate Justice

MINERVA P. GONZAGA-REYES
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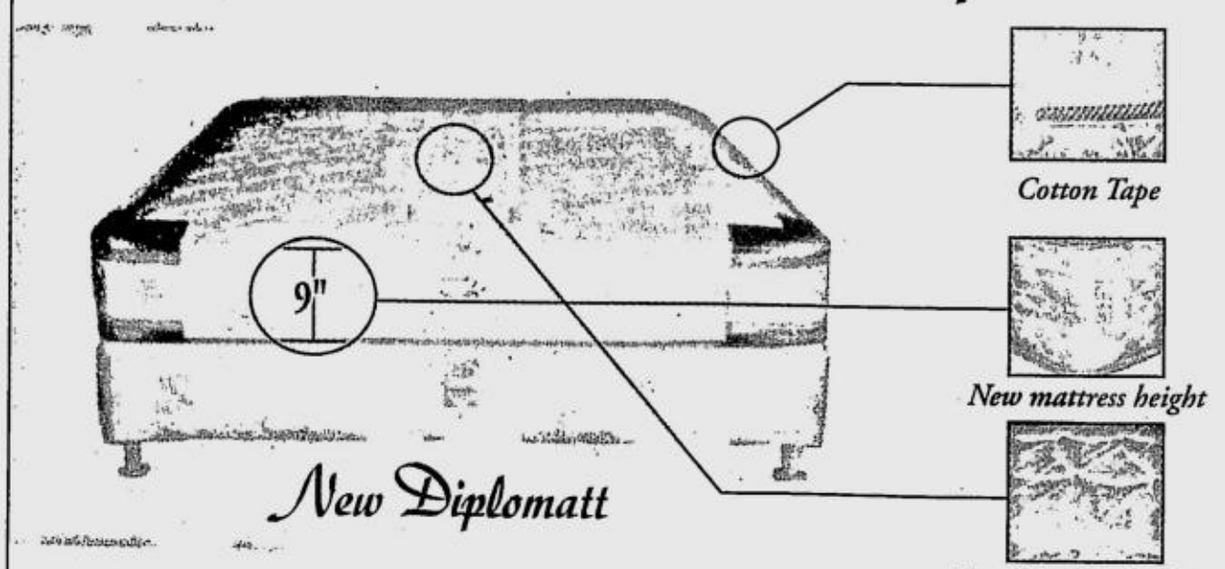

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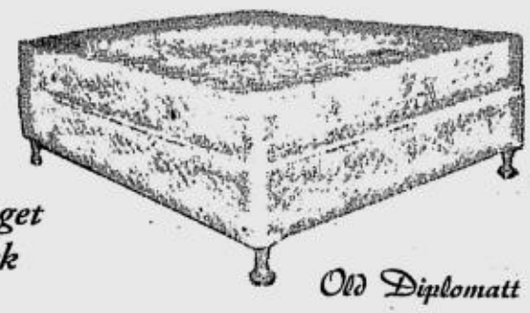

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TRO lifted; free texting cut

THE QUEZON CITY regional trial court yesterday lifted a restraining order on the country's cellular phone firms which would have stopped their plans to cut free text messaging allocations by up to two-thirds.

Following the decision, Smart Communications immediately implemented the text cuts yesterday.

Globe Telecoms, the other dominant cellular firm, is expected to follow suit.

The Philippine League for Democratic Telecommunications Inc. (PLDTI), a consumer advocacy group, had petitioned the court to issue an injunction stopping Globe, its unit Isla Communications, and Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. (PLDT) subsidiaries, Smart Communications and Pilipino Telephone Corp. (Piltel), from implementing plans to reduce free text message allocations.

The planned reductions would have commenced this month but were halted by the restraining order.

In his decision, Judge Modesto Juanson said the court had "no jurisdiction to try, hear and decide this complaint for an injunction . . ."

The court ruled that the National Telecommunications Commission, the industry watchdog, was the appropriate body to handle the matter.

But PLDTI legal counsel Rod Domingo Jr. said the NTC had said it did not have the regulatory authority to halt the companies' move as text messaging was a deregulated service.

"We can't go to the NTC and we can't go to the courts. Where can we go?" he asked while lamenting that the case had been resolved with "undue haste."

Domingo also said the resolution of the case without a transcript was "highly anomalous and irregular."

He complained that the telecom firms' lawyers were able to obtain a copy of the decision while PLDTI was not.

He vowed to continue the fight against the telecom giants, which he expects to "continue to exhaust all means possible to get what they want."

"If they want us to go to the NTC, then that's what we'll do. The NTC had better resolve this on the basis of its residual powers," Domingo said.

Consumer groups, which have been fighting the cuts, allege the cellular companies colluded in announcing similar-sized reductions at around the same time.

They also accused the NTC of failing to protect consumer interests.

The cellular firms have argued the reductions were required to offset the cost of their investments in infrastructure as well as foreign exchange losses sustained by the peso's weakness this year.

While dismissing the injunction petition, the court said the NTC was empowered to regulate rates and investigate any abuse in the fixing of tariffs and "reduction by 67 percent of free text messages is an abuse."

Before the reductions, up to 45 percent of Smart's text messages were free, while around 30 to 40 percent of Globe's were free.

The new text message allocations for Smart and its Piltel affiliate's Talk 'N Text's subscribers are as follows:

Smart Buddy prepaid subscribers will receive 66, 166 and 500 messages against the 100, 250 and 750-message allocations that subscribers enjoyed before.

Its postpaid subscribers will also receive less free messages: advantage plan, 400 from 600; personal plan, 528 from 800; business plan, 666 from 1,000; executive plan, 834 from 1,250; and CEO plan, 1000 from 1,500, also effective Sept. 10.

From 100, 250 and 750, Talk 'N Text subscribers will be getting 66, 166 and 500 free messages monthly.

Globe and its Islacom subsidiary will start implementing text reductions next month.

Globe's new allocations will be 100 messages, from 150 for prepaid; 270 messages, from 400 for advantage; 600 messages, from 900 for personal; 800 messages, from 1,200 for business; 1,200 messages, from 1,800 for executive; and 1,600 messages, from 2,400 for CEO.

Islacom's 180, 280, 375, 750, 800, 1,150 and 1,500 will be receiving 120, 186, 250, 500, 528, 766 and 1,000 free messages per month, respectively.

If the Quezon City court's decision is still in effect in January, the cellular phone firms will be implementing another round of text reductions, which will cut the allocations by a further half. ***Reuters with a report from Abigail L. Ho***

SUBIC-CLARK HIGHWAY AP

President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo applauds as Kyosuke Shimozawa, (right) governor of Japan Bank of International Cooperation, and Rogelio Singson, chair and president of the Bases Conversion and Development Authority, exchange the documents of agreement on a loan to finance the building of a 90-km road connecting Subic and Clark in Central Luzon. Also clapping their hands are Sen. Tessie Oreta, Trade Secretary Manuel Roxas and Rep. James Gordon.

New raps filed vs 10 SSS execs

BY M. LIM UBAC

THE 10 ranking Social Security System officials who had been meted a six-month preventive suspension by the Ombudsman found themselves facing new graft charges yesterday.

This time they have been indicted for alleged complicity in authorizing the irregular investment of SSS in DMCI Holdings Inc. in May 2000.

The complainants—Amado Cabaero and Honesto General—said the SSS officials should be held liable for entering into a "manifestly unlawful, inequitable, or irregular transaction" which resulted in the loss and dissipation of P350.572 million.

Cabaero and General filed the graft complaint on behalf of the Philippine Association of Retired Persons.

The 10 SSS officials had been suspended in connection with the allegedly overpriced purchase of P1.1 billion of PCI Bank shares that the SSS bought in 1999.

Suspended for six months without pay were vice president Horacio Templo, senior vice president for investment Edgar Solilapsi, senior vice president for legal and collection Amador Monteiro, institutional loans department head Lilia Marquez, and SSS Commissioners Rafael Estrada, Miguel Varela, Marianita Mendoza, Juan Tan, Raul Inocentes and Aurora Arnaez.

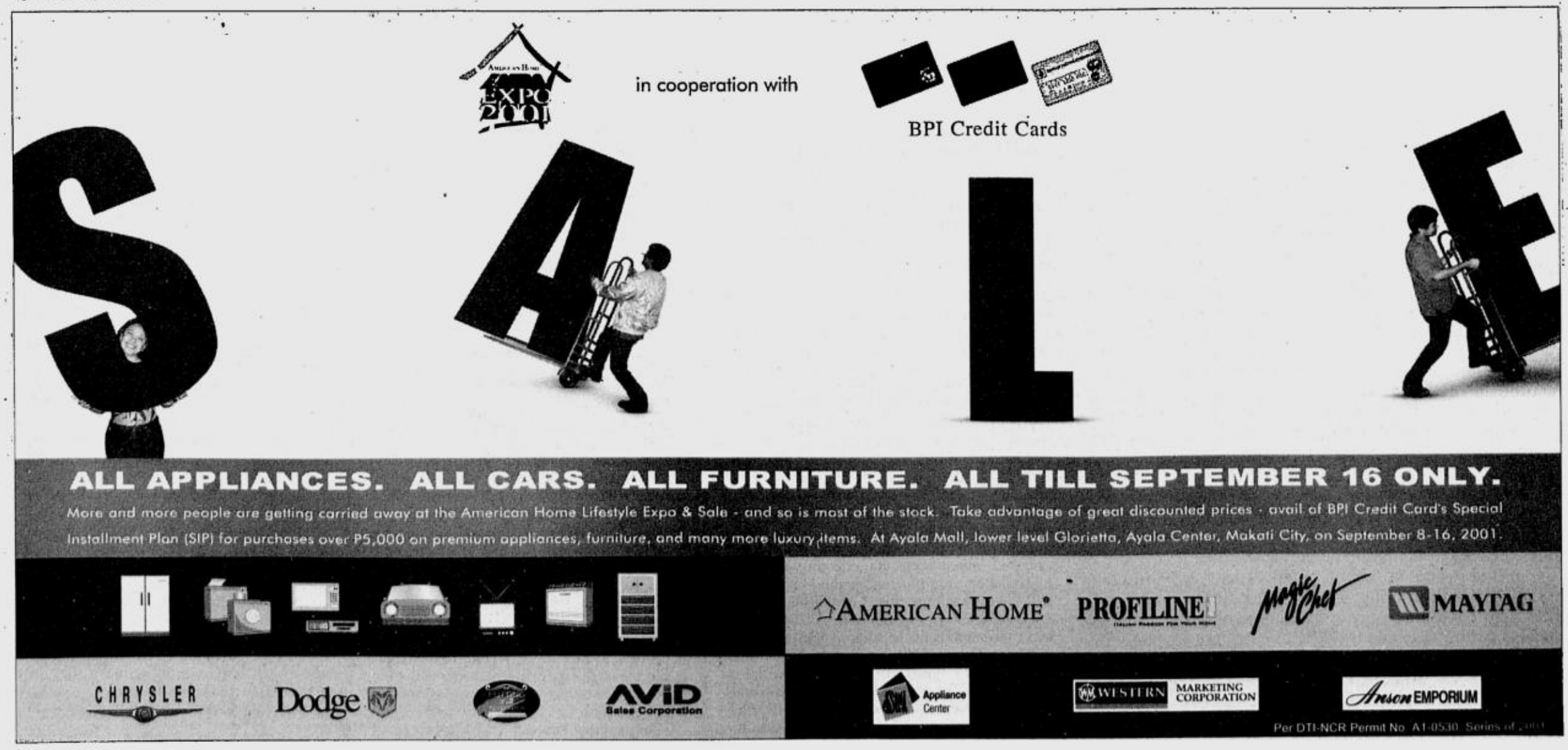
Four former SSS officials were also implicated: former chair and president Carlos Arellano, retired executive vice president Leopoldo Veroy and former SSS commissioners Cecilio Seno and Bienvenido Laguesma.

All 14 incumbent and ex-officials were charged on Aug. 28 for graft, grave misconduct and conduct grossly prejudicial to the best interest of the service.

In the latest graft complaint, two more SSS officials—Rizaldy Capulong, deputy chief actuary and assistant vice president for securities trading and management department, and Mariano Pablo Tolentino, assistant vice president for asset management—have been implicated in the scandal.

Marquez, the institutional loans department head, was not impleaded in the second graft charge.

The second graft complaint claimed that the 15 officials were liable for graft when they approved the investment in DMCI Holdings even if the firm failed to comply with all the requirements for inclusion in the list of companies where the SSS was allowed to invest.



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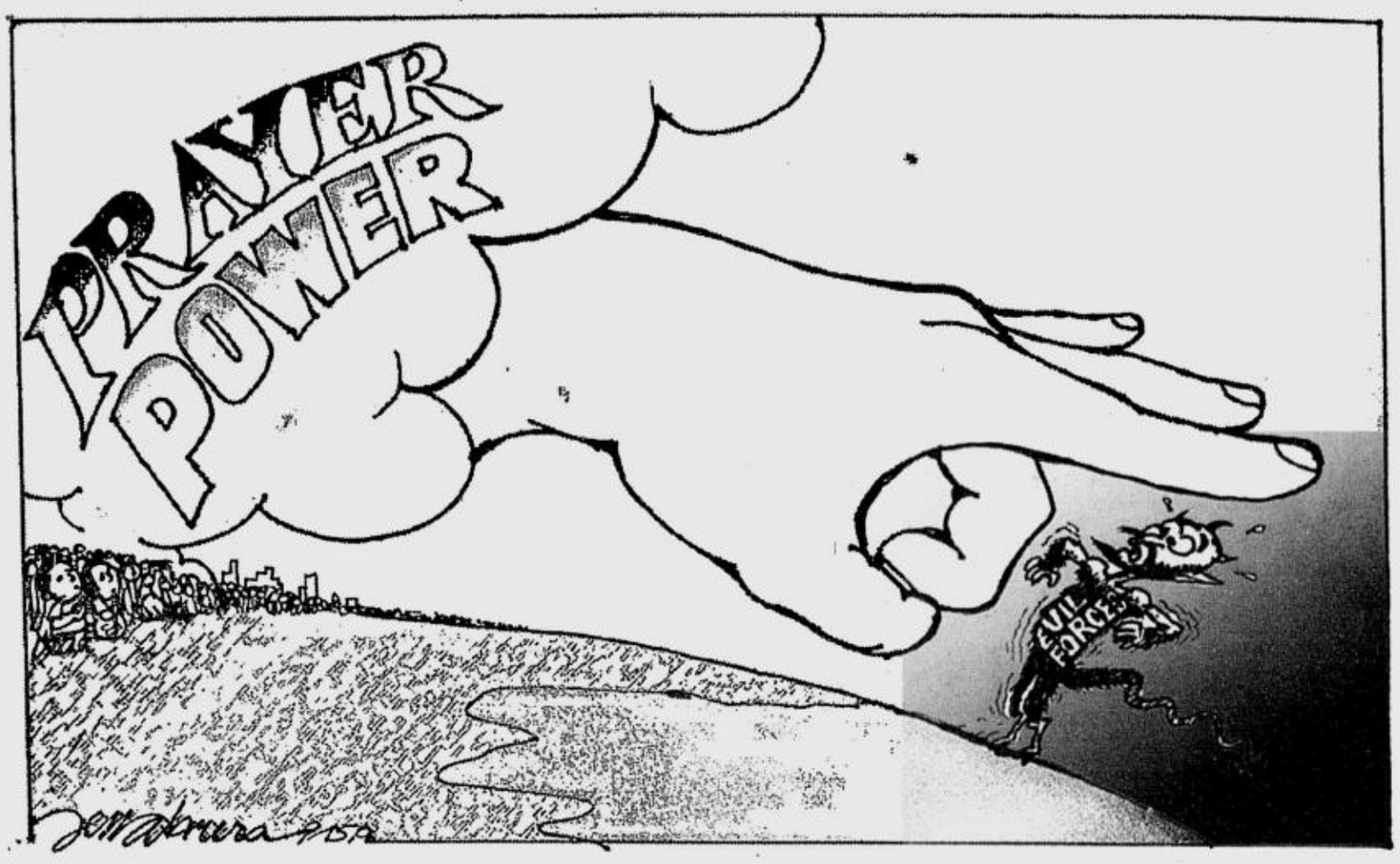

Coalition vs terrorism

EDITORIAL

THE NORTH Atlantic Treaty Organization has rallied around the United States in a show of solidarity not seen since the Cold War in response to the terrorist attacks in New York and Washington D.C. The Nato allies committed themselves to support US diplomatic and military action against the perpetrators of the attacks. They have invoked the Nato treaty clause which says that an attack on one member is an attack on all.

The US has also lined up the support of Russia, China, Pakistan, the moderate Arab states and Asia for a "war against terrorism." The cooperation of Russia and Pakistan is critical for possible military strikes against Afghanistan, the home base of Osama bin Laden, the principal suspect in the attack that razed the World Trade Center and destroyed part of the Pentagon.

Russia and Pakistan are neighboring states of Afghanistan. Gen. Pervez Musharraf, military leader of Pakistan, which is an Islamic state, has condemned the attacks and has committed his country's support for the international effort against terrorism. The US is seeking Pakistani aid in hunting down the perpetrators of the attacks and in possible military action. President Bush has said that in his talks with Russian and Chinese leaders, he had received an "outpouring" of support.

In Washington, the Bush administration has received bipartisan support from Capitol Hill on retaliatory action. Although Bush has not yet asked Congress to declare war on the terrorists, he has pronounced the attacks as "acts of war" and this has virtually put the US on war footing. The form of retaliation would depend on the results of the biggest US criminal investigation in history.

The forging of this global alliance against the menace is a response to the emergence of a new form of transnational terrorist warfare not seen in the history of the Western world. The terrorist groups have apparently their own global networks that transcend borders, and are protected or sheltered (according to Western intelligence reports) rogue states like Iran, Iraq and Afghanistan. Since this is a new form of warfare, the retaliatory actions have to be measured and well-focused, and the options include attacks or troop landings on countries which are giving sanctuary to terrorists. This option entails risks of expanding the war against terrorist groups into a war between the coalition and other nations. US Secretary of State Colin Powell has warned against rushing into immediate retaliatory action, saying that the campaign should be a sustained, long-term effort.

Bin Laden has given organized terrorism a religious character. He has tapped the militant strain in the Islamic world in his call to rid Islamic lands in the Middle East of the presence of Christians and Jews who invaded them, citing the Crusades of the 13th and 14th centuries.

This call for a fundamentalist militancy cloaks terrorism with a cultural and religious mantle, presenting it as a religious war. But most of the world, including the moderate Arab states, are not viewing it as such. While it is true that this militancy feeds on historical grievances of some Islamic states and groups in the Middle East against Western, especially US, foreign policy centered on Israel, the attacks on the US are widely seen as an attack on civilized society, whose main victims and targets are civilians, regardless of their religion, color and creed.

Thus the aim of the broad international coalition is the containment of this new form of barbarism deployed to redress grievances arising from complex political issues. The war against terrorism is not, therefore, a religious war that runs on the cleavage line of culture and religion. The combined resources—political, diplomatic and military—of the US and its coalition partners are being mobilized, first, to hunt down the perpetrators of this savagery, and, second, make ordinary people all over the world safe from attacks targeting population centers and cities.

Even if the attacks are directed against government installations representing seats of political power and symbols of economic power, civilians are being used as battering rams and cannon fodder to carry out revenge for historical grievances. Terrorists, whatever cause they are willing to die for, hold the civilized world hostage to their militancy. This must come to and end. This is the objective of this international coalition.

A question of citizenship

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

MY FRIEND Felix "Jun" R. Alegre Jr., the well-known publicist, used to broadcast a daily commentary entitled "Think About It" that had a wide and regular audience. Many of us were surprised when it was abruptly discontinued last July, raising speculations about the cause of its cancellation. Jun faxed me his statement last Tuesday regarding the matter.

According to him, his program was "arbitrarily taken off the air per verbal instructions of one Dante Ang...through Philippine Broadcasting Service director Ben Tabisaura and station manager Jun Ruiz who both confirmed the order in a taped telephone conversation." The reason, he said, was that "I would be critical of one of the program's sponsors, PCSO!"

Jun adds that "considering that I had a 'live' contract with PBS, the industry tradition of the usual 30-day notice to 'wind up' a program was not given (me) as a matter of courtesy—even if indeed there was an intention to terminate our existing contract."

I cannot comment on the merits of the program cancellation because I do not know the terms and conditions of the contract between Jun and the PBS. But I am interested in the constitutional aspects of the reported role of Ang in the termination of Jun's popular daily talk.

Alegre raises the point that Ang is an alien and so is prohibited from interfering in the operations of the mass media. The constitutional rule he cites is Art. XVI, Sec. 11(1) providing that "the ownership and management of mass media shall be limited to citizens of the Philippines or to corporations, cooperatives or associations wholly owned and managed by such citizens."

Jun says that, among other capacities, Ang is "the proclaimed owner of Kabayan and Manila Times and sits as chair of RPN 9." If Ang does hold positions involving the ownership and management of the mass media, he would be disqualified from such offices unless he can show that he is a Filipino citizen.

Alegre says that Ang was born to a Chinese father on June 27, 1942, when the Constitution of the Commonwealth was still in effect. There would be no problem, of course, if his mother was also a foreigner like his father for Ang would undoubtedly be also a foreigner. The problem would arise if, as has happened in many cases, Ang's mother was a Filipino citizen who was or as not married to his father.

If Ang was born to a Chinese father married to his Filipino mother, he would be a legitimate child following his father's nationality but with the inchoate right to elect Philippine citizenship upon attaining majority age. This he could do within three years from reaching the then majority age of 21 in 1963, or until 1966. If he failed to exercise that right on time, Ang would have remained a foreigner like his father.

If, on the other hand, Ang's Chinese father and Filipino mother were not married, he would be considered a natural-born Filipino, following the citizenship of his only legally known parent, the Filipino mother. Unlike the legitimate child of an alien father and a Filipino mother, the illegitimate child had more benefits under the old system because he was automatically regarded as a Filipino citizen from birth if his mother was Filipino.

The present rule, first adopted under the 1973 Constitution and retained in the 1987 Constitution, vests natural-born Filipino citizenship upon the child whose father *or* mother is a citizen of the Philippines. But the rule would not be applicable to Ang if he was born under the Commonwealth Constitution.

Several facts will have to be checked to verify Ang's citizenship. The first is the date of his birth, to determine which Constitution is applicable to him. If the 1935 charter covers him, it must be ascertained if his father was a foreigner and his mother was a Filipino citizen married or not to his father. If he was not an illegitimate child, there must be a showing that he elected Philippine citizenship within the prescribed grace period of 3 years from his attainment of majority age.

All these conjectures would be pointless, of course, if Ang was, regardless of his mother's citizenship, naturalized through the usual judicial or administrative process or by a special act of Congress.

It would be highly irregular if the facts disclosed that Ang is not a citizen of the Philippines and therefore not allowed to own or manage any agency of the mass media. His order to cancel Alegre's program, as reported, would be an officious and unconstitutional interference by a foreigner in the operations of the PBS.

And as long as we are talking of citizenship, let me digress to comment on the first question in the bar examination on Political Law last Sept. 2. It presented the hypothetical case of a Chinese who was a permanent resident of the Philippine Islands on April 11, 1899, and resided here until his death. He married a Filipino woman, begat Hap Chan, who also married a Filipino woman and begat Lacqui Chan. What was the citizenship of Lacqui Chan?

The question is unreasonable because the answer is based on the Philippine Bill of 1902, which is 99 years old and obsolescent except to the examiner. There are more recent laws of current importance and application that deserved the attention of the bar candidates. I hope the Supreme Court will direct some leniency in grading that number, which the examiner himself could probably not have answered if he were the examinee.

Coming back to Alegre, I believe his complaint deserves looking into if only to prevent the possibility of a foreigner exercising rights of ownership and management over our mass media in violation of the Constitution.

Retaliation

GET REAL

Solita Collas-Monsod

ALREADY it has started. Barely 48 hours after the September Slaughter, with the count of those who died hardly begun, with scarcely any knowledge of what the Filipino death toll is, with the full horror of the terrorists' handiwork just starting to sink in, those who preach caution, non-involvement, or non-retaliation have gotten off the post.

Let's not get involved, they say. We might be biting off more than we can chew, or getting in over our heads. Or, we're too small, too insignificant, we cannot possibly make a difference. Or, the terrorists may get irritated and target us next, and then we will get seriously hurt. Or, retaliation is not the answer; we must look at the root of the terrorism problem. Or, retaliation is not the answer; we should turn the other cheek (and show them we are Christians by our love).

Or, it is an American battle, it is not in our national interest to fight it. Besides, the mutual defense treaty we signed with the US is only a piece of paper. Or, the Americans had it coming anyway.

They are a mixed bag of Pontius Pilates, ostrich theory of self-preservation adherents, bleeding hearts, martyr wannabes, and American-haters. Anyone who gives them even the time of day should have his head examined.

Let us not forget, after all, that the major reason why the Marcosian dictatorship lasted so long was that we believed some of these arguments (we cannot make a difference, we might get hurt) and were afraid to lift a finger. We had to go through 14 years of exploitation, an assassination and massive election cheating before we took matters into our own hands—and we are still feeling the aftereffects of that dictatorship 15 years after we overthrew it. All it takes for evil to triumph is for persons of good will to do nothing.

Let us not forget, furthermore, that we are already victims of terrorism and its aftermath—and that the terrorism we experience in the Philippines is related to what the United States has experienced. Osama bin Laden, the suspected mastermind of the September Slaughter (Sept. 11, it should be noted, is also the date when the perpetrators of the first World Trade Center bombing and bin Laden's henchmen, were convicted and sentenced) is also reportedly the creator or godfather of the Abu Sayyaff movement here.

Surely we recognize the negative impact of the Abu Sayyaff activities on the Philippine economy in general (particularly on tourism) and Mindanao in particular. Bin Laden is also believed to have financed the education of 50 scholars here in the Philippines, whose whereabouts are unknown, and who, for all we know, are already in place all over the country as "sleepers"—terrorists disguised as ordinary professionals but ready to be activated anytime.

On the matter of retaliation not being the answer, let us not lose sight of the fact that it took not only economic sanctions but also a direct hit on his palace to make Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi decide to turn over to the international court the Libyan terrorists believed to have been behind the bombing of the Pan American jet in Lockerbie, Scotland and the death of all its passengers. An appeal to reason and justice was not enough to convince the Libyans to give up their countrymen. Violence and the threat of more did the trick.

The truth, as we know from bitter experience, is that if we let the terrorists get away with their acts of terrorism, they will be encouraged to do more of the same.

As for the the-Americans-had-it-coming attitude, let me say that I am no fan of the government of the United States. And I'm certainly not alone. Its do-as-I-say-but-don't-do-as-I-do attitude does not earn it many friends, whether individuals or countries. Proselytizing about how good governance requires transparency, accountability, and participation by stakeholders in decision making, and then doing what it wants without consultation, with no transparency and certainly no accountability is just one of its less endearing characteristics. As is its hopefully erstwhile habit of proclaiming the importance of upholding democratic principles, and then keeping repressive military dictatorships in power. Or, for that matter, its acting alternately like a spoiled brat and a big bully in the family of nations—refusing to pay its obligations to the United Nations, figuratively sticking out its tongue at agreements (Kyoto) that have been hammered out with great difficulty by the international community, taking its marbles and walking away from an international "game" (conference against racism) that is not going its way.

But that the US government may be all of the above doesn't constitute a carte blanche to take it out on the American people. That four of these Americans happen to be my sisters, that three of my children and my only grandchild were born in the US, are really beside the point. The point is that even if I did not hold Americans in general with the greatest of affection and respect—even if they were all loud, overbearing assholes—there is still no excuse for deliberately targeting them for slaughter, for annihilation.

Which is what the terrorists did, in an act that will go down in infamy. Killing Filipinos, British, Japanese, Mexicans, Koreans, Irish—who knows how many other innocent people in the process.

Do we really want these vermin and their protectors to get away with it? Or do we want to erase them from the face of the earth, as we would any other scourge? I should think the answer is obvious.

Buenaventura assures FATF of RP's sincerity

TOKYO—President Macapagal's working visit here was, as expected, dwarfed in the Japanese media by the terrorist attacks in the United States. She managed to land mostly on Page 2 of the big papers, but measured in the world of diplomacy, which goes by symbols and gestures, the visit had scored its own successes.

As reports have indicated, the President was seriously pondering cancelling the visit after the US attacks, and staying home, but by mid-morning of Tuesday, it was go. Apparently what helped convinced her, apart from her determination not to be cowed by terrorism, was the fact that Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi had cancelled all his appointments, except those related to her visit. Koizumi has cancelled his own visits to some Southeast Asian countries, scheduled to start tomorrow in order to monitor the developments in the US.

In addition, the reformist "no-gain-without-pain" Japanese leader has his own economic problems. Japan's GDP posted a negative 3.2 percent growth rate from April to June compared to the first quarter, and his reforms are meeting opposition from various quarters. In addition, the 5 percent unemployment is the highest since 1953.

Despite all this, Koizumi wanted Ms Macapagal to come to Tokyo and everything was set.

* * *

Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko also went out of their way to make the visit of President Macapagal and First Gentleman Mike Arroyo extra special. I talked briefly with Mike Arroyo after the luncheon of the President with top Japanese executives and he remarked on the warm reception they got from the imperial couple. The couple waited for them at the front entrance of the Imperial Palace, and not in the reception room as protocol dictated.

During the 30-minute visit, the President and the Emperor conversed while the First Gentleman and the Empress discussed Arroyo's civic projects at home. He said that the Empress was quite interested in his charity projects for the poor afflicted with certain diseases, and displayed a keen familiarity with the Grameen micro-credit system of Bangladesh, which Arroyo has adopted. From Arroyo's account, I noted that the Empress has recovered from her illness of some years back, when she could barely communicate with the world.

POLITICAL TIDBITS

Belinda Olivares-Cunanan

* * *

The Empress remembers vividly the details of the trip she and then Crown Prince Akihito made to the Philippines in 1962, during President Diosdado Macapagal's term, including her visit to Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo's Kawit residence. In fact MTRCB chief Alejandro Roces would be tickled pink to know that she remembers him very well. Roces, who was then the education secretary, was their official escort when they went to Baguio.

Apparently the friendship between the young imperial couple and the Macapagal family was sustained over the years. Gloria Macapagal, who was then 14, joined a dance troupe that performed during the dinner her father hosted for the imperial couple. Later, when she and her Assumption Convent classmates toured Japan, they were received by Prince Akihito and Princess Michiko. More than two years ago, then Vice President Macapagal and her mother, Eva Macapagal, again visited Japan, where the latter spent her last birthday. They were feted with a luncheon by the Empress.

* * *

Another indication of Japanese support is that what the Philippine government had feared, the reduction of Japanese official development assistance (ODA), may not materialize after all, but this cannot be confirmed yet. One factor that doubtless could convince the Japanese about retaining the ODA to the Philippines is the fact that, as GMA pointed out to the Japanese media, her administration has a 94-percent utilization of ODA, reportedly the highest ever. The Philippines will be getting additional funds for various projects under the Japan-Philippine Partnership Program. One will be an RP-based joint technical cooperation project to assist other developing countries, such as soon-to-be-independent East Timor.

* * *

I asked Bangko Sentral Governor Rafael Buenaventura about reports that he met with the regional head of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) in Tokyo and discussed the expected delay in the passage by Congress of the anti-money laundering law. The FATF, which is dominated by the big Western economies, has put pressure on the Philippines and some 20 other countries to impose stiffer sanctions against money-laundering in their respected banking systems—or suffer unfavorable consequences, such as delays in their bank remittances from abroad.

Buenaventura confirmed that he and Finance Secretary Jose Isidro Camacho had a meeting with the FATF people, during which they stressed that our Congress operates in a democratic system where legislative processes are observed, and that the passage of the anti-money laundering law cannot just be rammed through the legislature. Both officials pointed out that several versions of the proposed law are pending before the two Houses of Congress, an indication that the Philippines is serious about passing such a law

* * *

Buenaventura admitted to this columnist that the bankers themselves are eager to see the law passed, since "*nahihirapan din sila*" on account of the squeeze from the countries dominating the FATF. But he also conceded that efforts to pass this law are meeting resistance from some quarters which fear that easing up the bank secrecy law could be abused, to the detriment of bank depositors. The BSP chief said that one way to allay such fears of a whimsical application of the bank secrecy and the anti-money laundering laws is to appoint members of the Monetary Board to the Philippine task force that will monitor the anti-laundering moves in the country.

* * *

In President Macapagal's address before the Japanese business executives, she acknowledged that the recently passed Omnibus Power Law was authored by Sen. John Osmeña, who was a member of the presidential party to Tokyo. Osmeña was teased by the businessmen later about his having been singled out by GMA, and he blushed. When Buenaventura came and asked him about the anti-money laundering bill in the Senate, Osmeña quipped, "Now, I can see why I was singled out for acknowledgment on the passage of the power bill. They need my help in passing this anti-laundering law."

Crying no more

INSTEAD of typing away on my computer, I should be packing. I really should be filling up those cardboard boxes with my books, my clothes, my CDs and those little mementos of my eventful life in Davao. And yet here I am, trying to find some certainty in what I'm doing by reading about it on the monitor, hoping that, right there on the screen, something will tell me that it truly makes sense to give up my precious Davao, where the water is pure, the air is fresh, the people are warm, and go to a place where, as I've told friends, the tap is almost a detergent in itself, the air is visible, and the people are living in chronic Monday-in-downtown-New York frenzy. Instead of going about this relocation process with my characteristic determination and level-headedness, I have opted to pop a Bob Marley CD and start tapping away on the keyboard, trying the flee from the ominous. Now he's singing "No woman no cry," and I could just weep. I really could.

YOUNGBLOOD

Essa C. Remoquillo

We want to know what the young are thinking about. What are their thoughts on current issues? We welcome contributions from the twentysomething and below.—Ed.

For what is all this packing about, if it doesn't mean that once most of my things have been neatly piled, and some carted away since they are unnecessary for my urban living and survival training, I will become a changed person? A large part of me can never be the same, and can never go back. The worn glass beads, the cheap silver trinkets, the outrageously huge stuffed toys, the cheesy slum books, the even cheesier poetry, the treasured box of letters, the brown rose petals saved from past bouquets, the pillow hugged and slept on or the longest time—are these not a testament to who I am and who I have been, and evidence leading to who I will be? If I so much as even move them out of my room, disturb the sacred dust lightly covering them, place them in the boxes marked "Will Bring" or "Can Leave," exactly what do I take and what do I lose? I am now forced to face all those years of my young life and to decide what truly matters to me, the finality of my choices stored in cardboard boxes that, I try to imagine, empathize with my pain. Those boxes will contain my cherished dreams, my petty grudges, my so-called life.

Have I been dilly-dallying? I have what I suspect to be a psychosomatic sore throat—just terrible—that I conveniently use as an excuse to postpone the chore. But I presume it must have been a result of crying myself to sleep and holding back those little quiet tears the whole time I was hugging some friends goodbye. These are the same tears I surrender almost gladly to my comforting pillow, the lone witness to my anxiety.

Many have told me, "This is just fabulous! You're actually taking a stab at independence! You must be so excited!"

And I responded, "I know! Isn't it just lovely!" Any more of that and I will bawl like a baby.

Still I know this uprooting is truly what is best for me after living a sheltered life, for the girl who could always go home for lunch whenever cafeteria food wasn't to her liking and who woke up with a breathtaking view of Mt. Apo before her each God-given day. I will have to perfect the art of alternating instant noodle recipes in my mother's treasured, virtually unused cooking set, which she insisted I take with me. I will have to master dodging monstrous buses on my way to work, and brave the raging waters of an overflowing canal to get to the office on a rainy day. I will need nothing short of Lara Croft's agility, and learn to laugh in the face of danger, once I am a comfortable mile away from it with my finger still on the trigger of my pepper spray.

I will have to realize that, when it is necessary to choose between shoes and food, I will have to pick the latter, because the snazzy pair of heels on the window of Nine West will not go well with chili garlic oil. Neither would they look nice on toothpick legs. Food it is then.

I will have to spend wisely, knowing that if I handle my finances like there's no tomorrow, that's exactly what's going to happen.

And while learning all this, I will have to put on a winning smile to the world and put a lively gait to my steps, and toss my hair with the confidence of a girl whose life is just wonderful. I will be my own press release.

But most importantly, I will have to remember where I came from, my home, my family, my friends—the chapter of my life that, for a few hours more, still exists in full color before I sort it out and its parts into boxes. It is about hearing my parents teach me as a kid about honesty and hard work, about keeping myself grounded in my values, and holding on to these lessons even though they are not around to remind me about them. It is about teaching my folks the rudiments of texting so we can remind each other about meals and bedtime prayers. It is about remembering friends who are only too happy for me, who taught me to play billiards, who witnessed that first tequila shot, who gamely dressed up in costumes for an unorthodox 18th birthday celebration. It is about getting Internet access pronto so we can e-mail everyday. It is about missing the bed I've had since first grade, whose curlicues and carvings I've lovingly traced with my fingers, and knowing I can come back to the cold comfort of its sheets one day.

I understand now, having to pick which items I could bring to my new house, it was a false choice from the start. For how could I choose which part of my life should not get to me, should not touch me in some way? While I may have to leave some symbols behind, what they stand for are already in that suitcase. Seriously, though, the stuffed toys have to go.

And so I'm ending this little discourse—and going to start packing. The boxes are begging to be filled, and if I keep on stalling, someone might come across the slum books and start reading those embarrassing odes to pre-teen awkwardness.

Bob Marley said everything's gonna be alright. Every little thing's gonna be alright.

I believe him. For all my great fears and my pressing worries, I believe the guy. This woman is crying no more. Here's hoping he's right. After all, I leave tomorrow.

Essa C. Remoquillo, 20, is communication arts graduate of the Ateneo de Davao University and one of the Ten Outstanding Student of the Philippines for 2001. She is a member of the staff of a senator.

The student and the teacher

HE WAS her favorite student in the economics honors class at the Ateneo. After graduation, he decided to take up law, then joined an influential law firm during the Ramos administration. With the law firm's backing, he joined the government, building up an expertise in taxation and tariff law at the Tariff Commission.

As the anti-Erap protests gathered steam, he spent more and more time advising opposition leaders, including his former economics professor. He would eventually resign from the government, but was summoned soon after Edsa II by his mentor, who wanted him to take up the post of administrator of the National Food Authority.

Today, the whole country knows what happened between Anthony Abad and his former teacher, the President. Fresh on our memories is the TV footage of a frowning GMA, dressed like a biker in tight black trousers, black shirt and thick, ominous looking leather belt, touring a warehouse in Batangas filled to the rafters with sacks of rice. As TV reporters almost uniformly presented the story, the President was visibly upset at the sight of NFA rice "rotting" in a private warehouse owned by a trader-crony of Erap's, even as government was paying millions a year for storage.

The next day, Abad went on radio to air his side, little knowing he had stumbled into an even bigger controversy when his statement that the President had been "misinformed" was quoted to her during her weekly press conference.

"Bang!" went the President's hand on the podium. "What did he mean I was misinformed? Call Anthony Abad!" Abad was on his way back to his NFA office from a provincial warehouse when he got the call on his cell. Only when he arrived at his office did he find out that the President's one-way conversation had been aired live on national TV.

* * *

SO, SHOULD Anthony Abad resign from the NFA for either incompetence or for embarrassing his President? If some commentators are to be believed, if he doesn't hand in his resignation, the President should fire him.

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

As it turns out, the truth behind those sacks of "rotting" rice is simpler and more prosaic than the conspiracy theorists insist.

In the first place, says Abad, the rice was not smuggled. It was acquired last year (or during the Erap administration) as part of a soft loan from the US government, which routinely requires that part of the loaned amount be used to buy US commodities. Two million bags of "premium grade US rice" entered the country in February and March this year. The rice was stored in the Farmex warehouse because it was the closest to the port and was large enough to accommodate the vessel carrying the shipment.

Because the rice was too expensive to be sold through the usual NFA channels, a committee including NFA, the Department of Finance and the Department of Agriculture, under COA supervision, decided to hold a public bidding for it. After five failed biddings, the finance department decided to award the rice to the highest 10 out of 25 bidders.

"It's not true the rice was just left to rot in the warehouse," says Abad. "The successful bidders had already withdrawn about half of the stock, and had been given 120 days to complete it." And the rice buyers need not worry about eating "rotting" rice. The stock is in good condition, Abad said.

* * *

WHAT then was the President so angry about?

One reason advanced is that she thought it a waste of government resources to be paying a private warehouse when there are NFA warehouses which could store the rice for free. "But our warehouses were not big enough to hold all two million bags," Abad says, besides which they were already filled with other stock. "Bringing the stocks to another warehouse would mean additional hauling costs." Still, on the President's orders, the remaining rice is now being transferred to NFA warehouses.

Memorable, too, is the President telling Abad over the phone that "I didn't say the rice was not moving, just that it was moving too slowly." But as Abad points out, the buyers are on schedule in their withdrawal of the rice stocks.

So what lesson has he learned from this experience? Abad shakes his head. "I guess I should be less honest when I talk to the media," he smiles. "You know, less talk, less mistakes; no talk, no mistakes."

* * *

"MY IMPRESSION when she appointed me to the NFA was that she wanted reforms," reflects Abad. "I didn't really want the position, but she said I was needed here."

In the months he has headed the agency, Abad says he has had to fend off "almost daily" calls and requests from officials, national and local, executive and legislative, for all sorts of favors and concessions. "When I would ask the President if I should give in to this or that person, she would advise me to stand firm and not give in."

Such a position has not exactly endeared him to politicians, and indeed may have made him vulnerable to political hatchet jobs. To top it all, since Abad is a direct appointee of the President, agriculture officials aren't exactly compelled to rush to his defense, now or in the future.

Can Abad be blamed, then, for feeling like he's fighting a one-man rearguard action? And does he deserve all the calumny hurled his way?

He's still determined to push through with the reforms initiated at the NFA, says Abad. But there seems to be more than wishful thinking involved when he comments that "it's easier in the private sector."

And you wonder why it's so difficult to attract and keep young, committed and capable professionals in government?

The Nueva Vizcaya earthquake of 1881

THERE are elements to be savored in these archival reports: the old names of towns and rivers, the enviable description of nature before greed and loggers and a run-away population decimated the lush countryside.

In 1881, the governor general formed a commission to study the earthquakes that struck Nueva Vizcaya from July to October of that year. In July at 5 p.m. a strong jolt damaged some stone structures in the province. It was merely the precursor of a stronger earthquake. On Sept. 1 at 12:20 p.m. a strong, brutal and jarring shock of vertical movement commenced and continued unabated from one hour to the next, interrupted only by stronger jolts.

Enrique Abella later discovered an ancient missionary in Dupax, Fray Antonio Xabert, who had observed and catalogued the event. Fray Xabert had recorded 13 quakes in September and even more aftershocks. Abella also took notes of the geologic formation of the area.

The commission left Manila by the road to the north, passing by the towns of Caloocan and Ubando. In Bulacan, it noted the formation of slime and mud forming part of the bay. The area was almost always inundated at high tide and surrounded by a multitude of canals, notably the two branches of Ubijan and Taliptip at the entrance of Bulacan.

From there, the commission traveled to San Isidro, Nueva Ecija, passing by the towns of Quingua, Baliuag, San Ildefonso and San Miguel de Mayumo and traversing a plain that slightly undulated in some parts and rose slowly in the east. There the horizon was limited by the *cordillera* called El Caraballo de Baler, where some currents were born that poured into Manila Bay. The most important was the river that passed through the towns of Angat, Baliuag and Quingua, of Maasin, Garlang and Balaong.

In this area the land was formed by the same volcanic upheaval that formed Manila, interrupted by some girdles of mud produced by the great currents of water and by thick deposits of slime. Born of the same material accumulated in the same depressions of the land were those called the Pinac of Candaba that remained submerged a good part of the year, favoring rice cultivation.

SENSE AND SENSIBILITY

Bambi L. Harper

From San Isidro, the road crossed the Gapan River that flowed into a greater river born in the Caraballo of the south, limiting the mountainous area and plains of the province. It passed by Bongabong and Cabanatuan, forming the great strand that could be called the mighty river of Nueva Ecija. On the outskirts of Cabanatuan beside Talavera was another river, almost as immense, that continued on to San Jose and Puncan.

In San Jose, at some distance to the north, appeared some elevations that were the buttresses of the southern range. Upon arriving at the Lomboy River (the same waters that passed by Talavera), the course of the river was contained by hills that limited the horizon on both sides. The road began to ascend smoothly up to Puncan where the terrain was mountainous and the horizon restricted by hills.

After traversing the Rio Grande, called Dicdic in the area, two small divides could be seen separated by a stream, the Maringalo, where muddy layers impregnated by iron oxide were evident, with pronounced colors of yellow and red.

Between Caranglan and San Jose, these sedimentary layers were even more pronounced, leading Abella to conclude that these were geologically correlated to a passage between the Lomboy River and the Puncan, represented by massive layers if not in their original deposits at least *in situ*. Layers of this nature were also found in the riverbed of Dicdic.

Continuing the ascent towards the Caraballo, the land was of essentially muddy composition. Just before arriving at the Camarin de Salazar (a light construction built for travelers in those days), the landscape began to change, taking on a more volcanic formation, explaining the abundance of the sedimentary layers and their diverse inclinations. Due to their tight schedule, Abella was unable to gather fossils that would indicate the age of the deposits but similar ones were excavated in Cebu and Mindanao that indicated tertiary modern deposits.

Some samples of brown-colored oxides and red iron were collected around the area of the Camarin, consisting of real metal ore, making Abella presume that mining the deposits could benefit the province. From thereon the road became more precipitous and more revealing from the petrography point of view due to the rock layer evident on the sides of the road and in the beds of streams.

The rocks formed were of diverse species, within the classification of diorites such as *diorita granitoide* thick but fine-grained, the *anfibolita*, the *afanita anfibolica* and in the shadow of the Cruz de Caraballo, nests of feldspar in rock whose composition produced a kaolin that covered the road, simulating a snowfall in some areas.

Abella did not find the grains or pebbles that would have given him the age of those ranges or proved that the Philippines formed part of the Asiatic continent, separated by a convulsion and leaving the granite layer of the Cordilleras and its foothills to form the archipelago. That would be left to scientists of a later date.

THEY SAID

New evil

"This mass terrorism is the new evil in our world today. It is perpetrated by fanatics who are utterly indifferent to the sanctity of human life."

— Prime Minister Tony Blair on the terrorist attack in the United States

Punishing thieves

"Heads must roll as we must send a strong signal that thievery of the public coffers will not go unpunished."

—Sanlakas president Wilson Fortaleza on the millions of money received by Government Service and Insurance System officers

Running away

"It's the height of callousness for her to run off amid strong protests."

—Kilusang Mayo Uno secretary general Elmer Labog on the President's trip to Japan amid wage hike demands

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Why should GSIS workers get bigger pay and benefits?

INJUSTICE, unfairness and discrimination are the usual rallying points and causes of unrest, revolts or rebellion. Our history attests to this.

The government is expected to render efficient and effective services to address, minimize or, better still, totally reverse the onset of such a public malady.

The irony is that right in the government sector, unfairness does exist blatantly. Now, the Government Service Insurance System is under scrutiny. Resident auditors have revealed that GSIS officials receive exorbitant retirement benefits.

Earlier, GSIS officials were found to be getting huge monthly salaries that exceeded that of the President of the Philippines. When questioned, they found sanctuary in the amended charter of the GSIS.

GSIS officials seem to enjoy the highest remuneration and retirement benefits. As the newspapers reported, 10 GSIS retirees received a total of more than P72 million. A GSIS branch manager receives a monthly salary five to six times higher than that of a regional director of a line agency. And a mere driver gets as much as, if not more than, the pay of a section chief in a line agency. The latter receives a salary that conforms with the 1989 Salary Standardization Law.

In 1989, the government implemented the standardization law, which mandated that agencies of the government shall receive uniform salary rates nationwide, regardless of station, depending on each salary grade. Thus a utility worker classified as Grade 1 shall receive P5,000 monthly salary. This rate is true whether one is working in Malacañang or in a government agency in Basilan.

It is therefore revolting to learn that the GSIS was able to do away with the standardization law while government agencies conform religiously with the salary standardization law.

This is a great unfairness. We are all public servants, representing the people, who are generally poor. I believe it is not enough to review the remuneration of high-ranking officials of GSIS, but the whole salary scheme of GSIS employees and see that these conform with the standard rates for government employees. Let's play fair.—**DANILO V. TAYONG, NIA regional office 12, Villarica, Midsayap, Cotabato**

LETTERS

Traffic lights always off

WE know that there are traffic bottlenecks all over the place, especially in Manila. I would still like to make a complaint regarding the matter.

On the way to Divisoria, particularly at the intersection of Jose Abad Santos and Claro M. Recto, traffic is hopeless, and all because the traffic lights are off almost all of the time. I would like to bring this matter up to the people who have the authority to solve this problem. —**SHIELAH D. CARLOS, 322 Padre Rada St., Tondo, Manila**

'No good war, no bad peace'

I JOIN brother Americans and the whole world in mourning the tragic incidents in New York, Washington and Pennsylvania. I am expressing my deep sympathies and condolences to those who lost loved ones during that fateful day. Everybody should condemn the perpetrators as no religion prescribes the targeting of innocent civilians, even in a shooting war.

I also have relatives in New York—my son Mikhail Nasruddin, daughter Tahera Mitzcka, and sister-in-law Beth with her husband Raul and children. I therefore worry so much for as long as the terrorists roam America's streets freely.

Let us all pray that terrorism, state-sponsored or otherwise, be stopped ASAP. Let us not blame anybody prematurely. Remember McVeigh, after blaming the Arabs widely in media? Let us also pray that the US leadership be enlightened to lead a new approach to World Peace —not through its world-acknowledged military might, but through a morally upright path of non-violence.

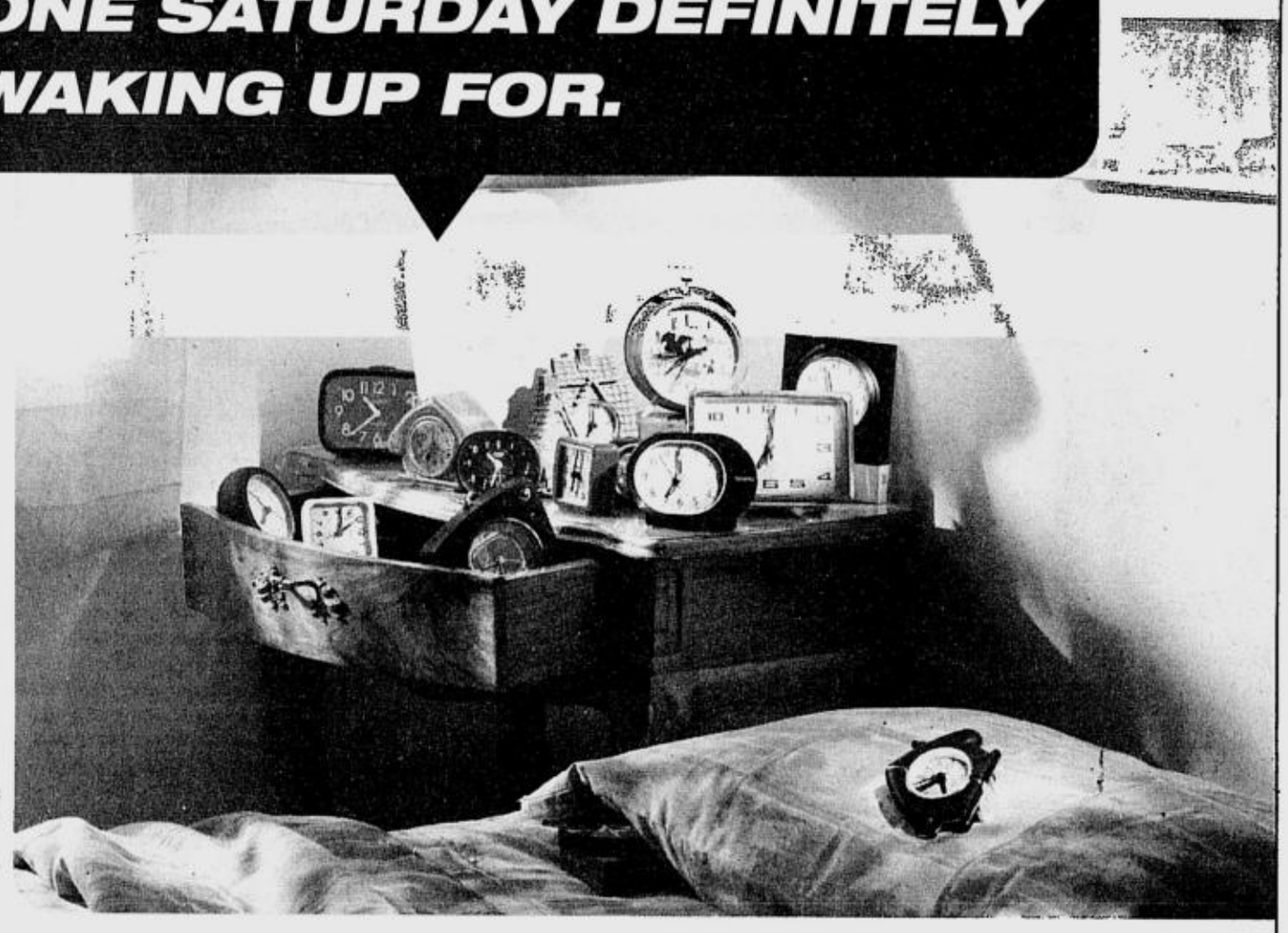
Through the years, it was shown that the US military might has not brought peace and justice to innocent civilians in Hiroshima, Kosovo, Iraq, Libya, Cuba and other countries. Let not the prophecy of Nostradamus be our guiding light. Let us prove him wrong because he is not God, and his words are not contained in our Holy Books the Qur'an and the Bible.

If America gives a good example by charting a road to peace, through dialogue and not through its superior armament, the whole world, regardless of religious affiliation, will accept the leadership of the USA, militarily and morally.

Let me remind everyone that "there is no good war, as there is no bad peace!" Let the Muslims, Christians, Jews, Buddhists, Hindus and the rest of mankind co-exist peacefully in every nook and cranny of the world. —**TAHA M. BASMAN, secretary general, Phil. Islamic Council, Cottage 4, Maharlika Village, Taguig, MM**

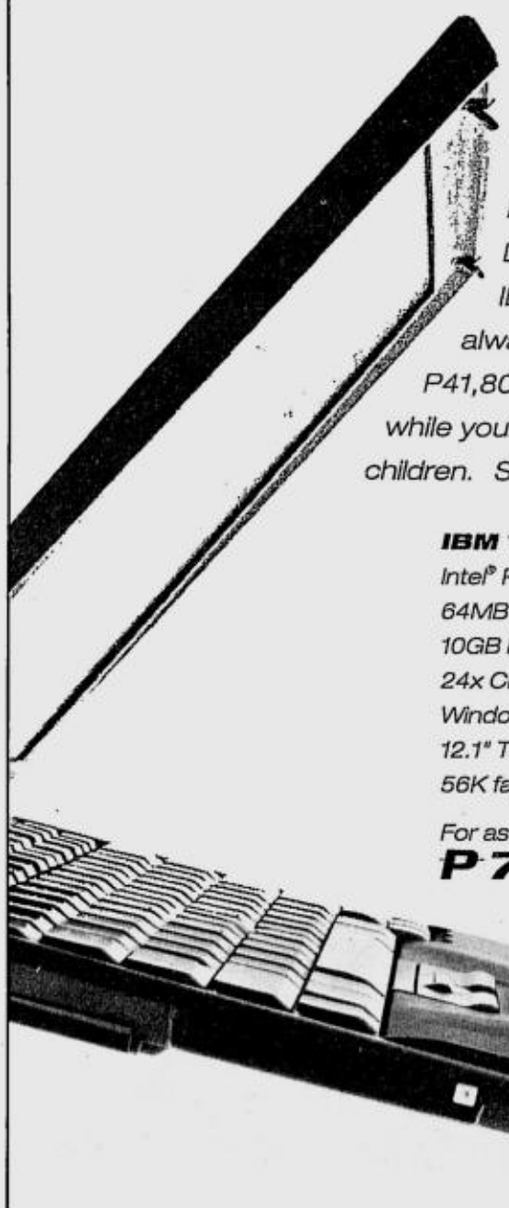
generation e business

THIS IS ONE SATURDAY DEFINITELY WORTH WAKING UP FOR.



It's the biggest IBM sale this year! On September 15, enjoy BIG discounts on desktops and mobile computers and treat your kids to free magic shows, games and fun activities.

Make sure you don't miss the sale of the year! It's happening at the Rockwell Club Tent, Lopez Drive, Rockwell Center, Makati City from 9 am to 8 pm. Now's your chance to get the IBM ThinkPads (the most award-winning line of mobile computers) and IBM NetVistas you've always wanted at discounted prices. Imagine bringing home an IBM NetVista PC for as low as P41,800! What's more, you can take pleasure in choosing from a wide array of other IBM models while your kids are dazzled by magicians, clowns, jugglers and other fun programs and activities for children. So get set and mark the big day on your calendars!



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Per DTI-NCR Permit No. A1-0525 Series of 2001

Debate on GMOs needed

THE MACAPAGAL administration recently issued its policy statement on modern biotechnology by calling for the promotion of safe and responsible use of modern biotechnology as one of several means to achieve and sustain food security, equitable access to health services, sustainable and safe environment, and industry development.

This national policy is important for the country to benefit from the tremendous potentials of biotechnology. However, even with the issuance of the policy statement, some groups are determined to forestall the national biotechnology agenda in their pursuit of parochial selfish concerns to the detriment of the larger interests of the Filipino nation.

The Biotechnology Conference of the Philippines views with great concern the uprooting by anti-GMO advocates of genetically modified corn being tested in a 1,700 square-meter farm in Tampakan, South Cotabato. It strongly condemns this and similar efforts that block the progress of science in the service for humanity.

Field-testing is an important phase in determining the safety and efficacy of bio-engineered crops. By their action in South Cotabato, the militant organizations involved have temporarily jeopardized this process. And yet, it is ironic that the opposition to GMOs is centered on questioning the safety of using the organisms—a concern that has yet to see any scientific basis. If indeed, science underpins their concerns, and that there really is incontrovertible proof that GMOs pose harm to animals, plants, humans and the environment, anti-GMO advocates should logically welcome the field testing of GMOs. Field-testing would, after all, finally bring to light proof—often promised but never delivered—of the harm GMOs pose.

It is regrettable that, although legal, and administrative means are available, anti-GMO advocates chose the destruction of private property to express opposition to, and stop the testing and use of, GMOs. Even more regrettable is that the method these advocates have chosen does not provide the opportunity to really settle the safety questions related to GMOs. On the contrary, they have, by their actions, left the public still bereft of calm, scientific, and informative debate on the issue. The anti-GMO advocates, it seems would rather keep the public in the dark by unenlightened rhetoric, generalities based on unsubstantiated threats and undefined "ghosts," and grand gestures that hide the facts.

The public does have the right to know the facts!

And these are the facts:

- Biotechnology has tremendous potential to contribute to the achievement of poverty eradication, food security and adequate nutrition, improved health, and sustainable environment.
- No scientific proof exists to confirm that genetically modified foods are any less safe then foods derived from traditional means.

Yet, the anti-GMO advocates seek to deprive us of this potential, based on fears that have yet to be proven.

We of the BCP urge that a dynamic and unfettered, yet objective, exchange of information and ideas be undertaken by all concerned. Let us talk and reason with each other. Let us decide what we want to do, and how to do so, in an atmosphere where respect for the truth, and others—especially those who disagree-reign supreme. Let us not be slaves to untruths and unknowns.

The government for its part should show political will to enforce policies formulated for the betterment of our people. It should not be held hostage and paralyzed into inaction by groups, which threaten the use of vandalism and mass mobilization against it. After all, we are a government of laws.—**BENIGNO D. PECZON, president, Biotechnology Conference of the Philippines, Unilab, #66 United St., Mandaluyong City**

Was Suplico a fall guy?

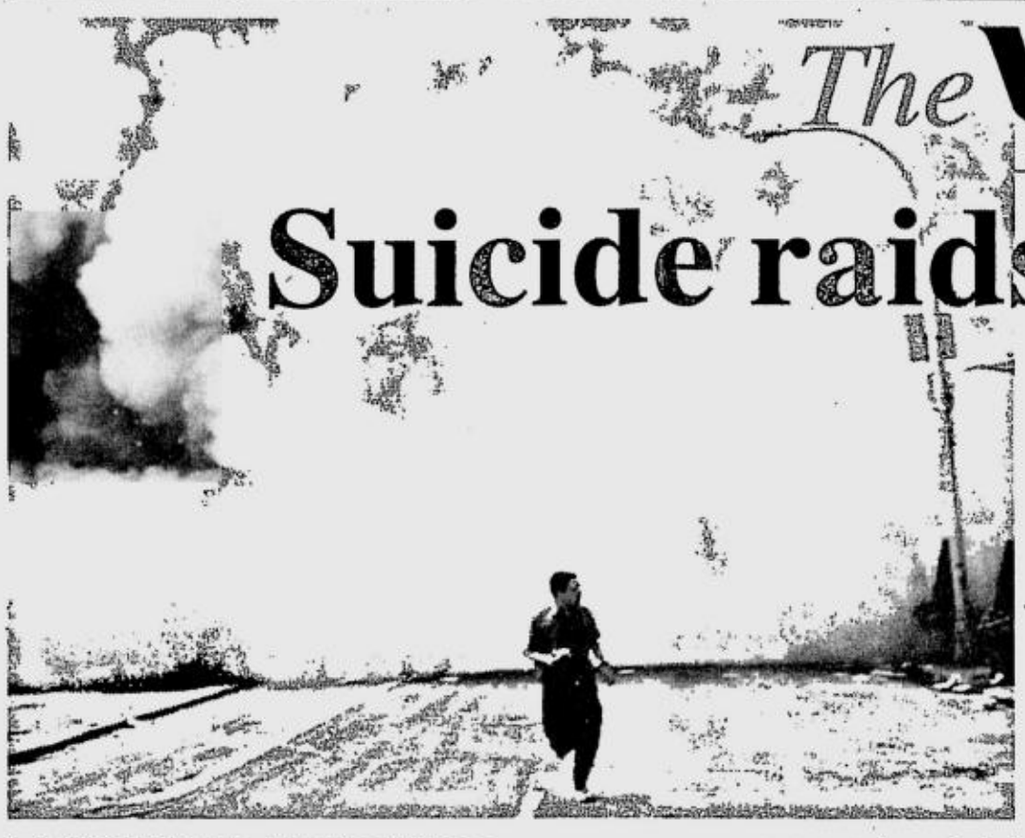
CONGRESSMAN Rolex Suplico is known in Western Visayas as a man of integrity, so it is quite surprising for us Ilongos, particularly his constituents, when he was tagged as one of the so-called "Gang of 5" congressmen in the House of Representatives.

Suplico's inclusion in the alleged gang, which is being accused of extorting money from telecommunication companies, is erroneous and unfair. Congress should instead dig deep into talk within political circles that another Iloilo lawmaker was claiming he should be the one included in the Gang of 5 instead of Suplico because he was the author of the measure seeking a congressional probe of Smart and Globe.

I'm inclined to believe that Suplico was either a victim of "mistaken identity" or used as a "fall guy" by some political and business interests.—**NANDO JUANEZA, E. Reyes Ave., Estancia, Iloilo**

The WORLD

LUVERNE B. GUECO, EDITOR



Suicide raids seen as new scourge

JERUSALEM—They are deadly killing machines, human weapons whose aim is to kill as many people as possible by killing themselves.

The devastating events in the United States on Tuesday in which hijackers seized aircraft and crashed them into the World Trade Center in New York and the Pentagon in Washington were the most deadly suicide attacks ever.

But the strategy is not new. It has been cultivated for two decades in the Middle East where Israel has borne the brunt of dozens of suicide attacks by Palestinian Islamic militants opposed to its existence.

"No country is immune to such attacks," said Boaz Ganor, an Israeli expert on the phenomenon.

He said such strikes, which also have taken place in recent years in Sri Lanka, India and Turkey, were so deadly because the weapon was "a human smart bomb."

"Suicide terrorism is a growing phenomena. We see this in the number of states that suffer from this," Ganor said. "This method works for the terrorists as they achieve what they want to achieve, they get much more casualties."

Palestinian suicide bombers are given a bomb, usually packed with nails for more deadly effect, which they are told to detonate in a crowded place so that as many people as possible will be killed and maimed, Israeli experts say.

They are taught they will not be committing suicide which is forbidden by Islam but rather martyring themselves for God and will go straight to heaven.

"Those who are actually involved are highly brain-washed and indoctrinated so they do it blindly," said Palestinian analyst Khalil Shikaki.

They require no skills, other than pressing the detonator of a bomb, and are usually chosen because they are young, religious, poor and easily malleable.

But the Israeli experts say the profile of suicide attackers has changed since a Palestinian uprising against Israeli occupation erupted last year after peace talks broke down.

Older, more educated, men have strapped explosives to their bodies and blown themselves up in recent months. *Reuters*

A NEW YORKER runs down Broadway as a smoke-and-dust cloud billows down the street from the collapsing World Trade Center buildings in New York Sept. 11. Both of the Center's towers collapsed after being rammed by hijacked commercial planes. REUTERS

Taliban expect big US attack, vows revenge

KABUL—Afghanistan's Taliban said Friday it expected to be hit by a massive attack by the United States and vowed that it would take revenge.

"We are ready to pay any price to defend ourselves and to use all means to take our revenge," a spokesperson for the Islamic militia's supreme leader Mullah Mohammad Omar told AFP by satellite phone from the Taliban stronghold of Kandahar.

The spokesperson's comments came a day after the United States said for the first time that it considered Osama bin Laden a suspect in the investigation into Tuesday's terrorist attacks on New York and Washington.

"Now they (the US) are indicating in clear words that they are going to strike," Abdul Hai Mutmaen said.

The spokesperson added he expected the attack to be far more extensive than the limited cruise missile strikes launched by the US in 1998 over Bin Laden's alleged involvement in the bombing of American embassies in Africa.

"It will be at a very high level. Last time they only attempted to strike a (Bin Laden) camp. This time they want to eliminate the whole system and government.

"They have been looking for a pretext and now they have found one."

Despite the impending threat of US military action, the Taliban has refused to hand Bin Laden over. In a statement issued on Thursday, Omar said Bin Laden could not possibly have orchestrated the attacks on the US.

An English version of Omar's statement was presented to the international press in Islamabad on Friday by Taliban ambassador Abdul Salam Zaeef.

The envoy reiterated that the United States had not supplied any evidence linking Bin Laden to the attacks. The Taliban maintains that they have denied Bin Laden contact with the outside world to such an extent that would make it impossible for him to orchestrate such an attack.

"It was a sophisticated and complex operation and no one can know who is behind it," the envoy said.

"In Afghanistan such operations are not possible. All communications means have been taken away from Osama, like faxes, the Internet and satellite phones. He is not able to contact anyone in the outside world." *AFP*

J'nese-Americans feel affinity for Arab-Americans

LOS ANGELES—Remembering their own painful World War II experiences, Japanese-Americans here have expressed support for Arab-Americans and Muslims being targeted for public harassment after Tuesday's terrorist attacks.

The attacks—believed to have been carried out by people of Arabic descent—are being compared repeatedly to the Dec. 7, 1941 Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

Immediately after Pearl Harbor, the US government rounded up and placed some 120,000 Japanese-Americans into internment camps.

The San Francisco-based Japanese-American Citizens League stated Wednesday that it is "deeply alarmed" over reports that some Arab-Americans and Muslims have already been targeted and mistreated by some Americans.

"Arab Americans and Muslims (are) being collectively blamed or specifically pursued as scapegoats through unsubstantiated accusations or biased treatment by investigative agencies or the public," according to the statement.

"The Japanese-American community is very sensitive to this," said Clyde Nashimura, a Navy civilian scientist in Arlington, Virginia, who is on the board of directors of the 24,000-member JACL.

"There is so much anger and there is a need to lash out, but there is no enemy out there to be the brunt of American anger," John Tateishi, the league's national executive director, said Thursday.

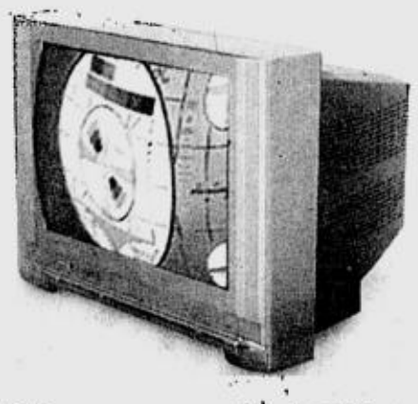
"Our concern is that the public will misunderstand who the real enemy is. And that happened to us in 1942."

In Detroit, the national weekly Arab American News has received numerous death threats—and editor Osama Sib Lani welcomed support from Japanese-Americans.

"They suffered what we are going through right now, they witnessed it first-hand," Sib Lani said.

"This newspaper has been receiving overwhelming support from the American public. Veterans were coming out and saying they were willing to wear their veterans' clothes and stand by our building. We have the finest people on the face of the earth in this country." *AFP*

Digitally yours LG



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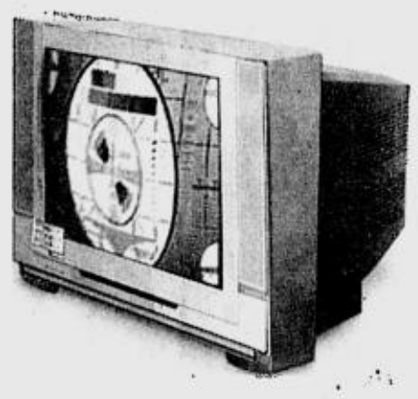

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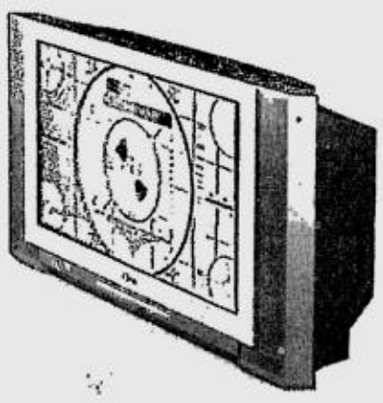

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   - *1 empty pack of any Duracell Batteries or Dura 2X Batteries*
   - *receipt of any Soft & Dri, Gillette Series, Right Guard or Gillette Foamy Product (dated Sept 15 - Dec 15, 2001)*
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7. *A DTI representative will be present to supervise the draw at 10:00 am to 12 nn on December 28, 2001. Venue will be at Gillette (Phils.), Inc., main office at Villongco Road, Bo. San Dionisio, Sucat, Paranaque, Metro Manila.*
8. *A winner can only win once. If name is drawn more than once, winner gets the prize of higher value.*
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Australia's 2nd largest airline collapses

SYDNEY—The travel plans of 45,000 Australians were thrown into chaos by the sudden collapse on Friday of the country's second largest airline, Ansett, with huge debts and job losses.

Thousands of angry passengers crowded airport ticketing counters of Qantas and Virgin, trying to book alternative flights, but the rival carriers were unable to accommodate all of the stranded passengers.

More than 17,000 Ansett employees woke to find they had lost their jobs in the 65-year-old airline just 15 months after it was bought out by Air New Zealand. Another 40,000 jobs in downstream industry are also under threat, the unions say.

Ansett was grounded suddenly and without warning at 2 a.m. Friday after administrators PricewaterhouseCoopers declared they had run out of cash to continue.

The bankrupt carrier was placed in voluntary administration two days earlier to stem the financial hemorrhaging of Air NZ after it conceded Ansett was losing $670,000 a day.

Thousands of Ansett workers, owed more than $400 million in wages and entitlements, marched on city centers across Australia in protest rallies to urge Canberra to guarantee the entitlements.

At one stage, hundreds of airline baggage handlers, refuellers and caterers at Sydney and Melbourne airport walked off the job in a protest strike that caused delays to some international flights. Air New Zealand suspended flights from New Zealand to Australia.

However, Prime Minister John Howard announced that the government would pay all of the workers' entitlements if Air New Zealand refuses, possibly through the introduction of a special levy.

Four regional airlines controlled by Ansett have also collapsed, causing a transport crisis for numerous regional and isolated Outback centers where they provided the only airline services.

Deputy Prime Minister and Transport Minister John Anderson said the government had done everything it could to save Ansett but it would have cost $88 million to keep it flying until just Saturday night.

He deflected criticism of Canberra's handling of the crisis, blaming the collapse of "an Australian icon" on Air NZ incompetence.

"Ansett's assets will now be put up for sale but the company itself has been completely and comprehensively driven into the ground by . . . Air NZ," Anderson said. "It is just mind-boggling bad and it just can't be resurrected in its current form."

Among the stranded passengers was New Zealand Prime Minister Helen Clark, on her way home from Europe, who found her Air NZ flight from Melbourne blockaded by Ansett workers furious with the New Zealand carrier.

She had to be lifted out four hours late on a police helicopter to a smaller nearby airport to connect with an air force jet to get her back to Wellington.

Flight attendant Carelle Cumming telephoned talkback radio to complain tearfully that she had given Ansett loyal service for 25 years only to find herself out of a job without even wages.

"We have worked for two weeks without pay," she told ABC radio. "The pilots were due to be paid today, but they've shut down because they don't want to pay the pilots."

Air NZ, which already owned half of Ansett, acquired the other half from News Corp Ltd. in June 2000. *AFP*

ANSETT aircraft sit idle at Sydney's airport after the airline was grounded early on Friday, stranding thousands of passengers and prompting protests from angry union members. REUTERS

Int'l arrest warrant out for Fujimori

LIMA—A Peruvian judge Thursday issued an international arrest warrant for Alberto Fujimori on charges of murdering and kidnapping political opponents.

Judge Jose Luis Lecaros said he hoped Japan would extradite Fujimori, 62, who lives there in self-exile.

Fujimori's "capture has been ordered nationally and internationally, with an arrest warrant," Lecaros said.

He also ordered a freeze on Fujimori's assets up to a value of $1 million.

A government prosecutor last week filed charges of homicide and kidnapping against Fujimori in connection with two state-sponsored massacres in the early 1990s.

The first attack was in 1991, when 15 people, including a child, were gunned down at a house party in Lima's Barrios Altos district. The second was in 1992, when nine students and a professor were shot to death at La Cantuta University. Both attacks were conducted by the paramilitary Colina Group made up of members of the armed forces.

Peruvian law allows an extradition process to proceed if charges of murder, torture or kidnapping are filed. Peruvian authorities have admitted the charges were drawn up chiefly to apply to Japan for Fujimori's extradition. *AFP*

Koreas in make-or-break reconciliation talks

SEOUL—North and South Korea will hold their first ministerial talks of the year here from Saturday in a bid to revive their reconciliation process.

A five-member North Korean delegation led by Kim Ryong-song, who is considered a moderate in the North Korean Cabinet, will arrive in Seoul on Saturday for four days of negotiations on setting a new agenda for efforts to bring the two states together.

South Korea will also have a new delegation head after Hong Soon-young became unification minister last week following a national assembly rebellion against President Kim Dae-jung's "Sunshine Policy" of engaging the communist North.

The two sides agreed to go ahead with the talks despite international security concerns caused by the devastating terrorist attacks in the United States this week.

The agenda includes reconnecting railway and road links across the heavily fortified inter-Korean border, a permanent center for reunions of families divided since before the 1950-53 Korean War and economic exchanges.

The stricken North is expected to ask for economic aid including food and electricity at the talks, South Korean officials said.

The talks will be the first since the North suddenly called off official contacts in March as ties strained between Pyongyang and Washington. The last ministerial-level talks were in Pyongyang in December.

Leaders of the North and South held a historic summit in Pyongyang last year and agreed to move toward formally ending the Korean War and eventual reunification. The war was only halted with an armistice.

There were three rounds of family reunions involving 300 people from each side. But no new ones are planned. *AFP*

Mother Teresa's letters depict doubt, joy, pain

CALCUTTA, India—Mother Teresa sometimes felt rejected by God, helpless, and tempted to leave the Missionaries of Charity order she had founded, according to her letters and diaries published by an Indian theological journal.

The documents—describing a spiritual struggle that ranges from joy and yearning for God to doubts of his existence—were collected by priests and nuns preparing a report on Mother Teresa's life for consideration of her possible beatification by Pope John Paul II.

Excerpts appeared in the March 2001 issue of Vidyajyoti (Light of Knowledge), a journal published in New Delhi by the Jesuit order.

"Now, Jesus, I go the wrong way," she said in letters written in 1959 or 1960. "They say people in hell suffer eternal pain because of loss of God. In my soul I feel just the terrible pain of loss, of God not wanting me, of God not being God, of God not really existing."

The Rev. T. Picachy, then rector of St. Xavier's College who later became archbishop of Calcutta, was her spiritual confessor and had asked her to write out her thoughts.

"Jesus, please forgive the blasphemy—I have been told to write everything—that darkness that surrounds me on all sides. I can't lift my soul to God: No light, no inspiration enters my soul," Mother Teresa wrote.

She frequently confessed her inability to pray.

The Rev. Joseph Neuner, the senior theologian who wrote the article, was a friend of Mother Teresa and part of the team that obtained the letters from the Missionaries of Charity, the secretary of the journal's editorial board, G. Gispert-Sauch, said Thursday.

Parts of the diary were written when Mother Teresa was trying to find a place to establish her hospice and order of nuns, said the article.

Her own efforts gave her more understanding for the poor. "When I went rounding (sic) looking for a home I walked and walked till my legs and my arms ached. I thought how they must also ache in body and soul looking for home, food, help," Mother Teresa wrote on Feb. 16, 1949.

Twelve days later, she said: "Today, my God, what torture of loneliness. I wonder how long my heart can suffer this . . . Tears rolled and rolled. Everyone sees my weakness."

She remembered her home in Europe. "All the beautiful things and comforts, the people they mix with, in a word everything," she wrote. She paraphrased the words the New Testament says Satan used to tempt Jesus Christ: "'You have only to say one word and all these will be yours again,' the tempter kept on saying." *AP*

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Profit-sharing proposed

BAGUIO CITY—A profit-sharing arrangement for workers is being proposed in place of a P125 across-the-board increase sought by the labor sector.

This was learned Wednesday from Baguio Rep. Mauricio Domogan, a member of the House labor committee, who said the House body felt that a revenue-sharing arrangement could be an acceptable compromise for workers.'

He said two committee hearings had noted the potential inflationary impact of a legislated wage increase.

"A certain percentage of a company's profit will be given back to its workers in addition to their regular wages and not a standardized wage hike. That is our solution," he told reporters here.

As this developed, the Wage Increase Solidarity (WINS), an umbrella organization of labor groups from the government and private sectors in the Ilocos region, was launched Wednesday in Vigan City to press for a legislated P125 daily wage increase for private workers and P3,000 across-the-board increase for government employees.

Some 150 members of militant groups also staged the Baguio leg of a nationwide rally supporting the proposal of Bayan Muna representatives in Congress for a P125 wage increase.

"Our basic right as workers to a just minimum wage should not be sacrificed because of the problems confronting particular firms or the whole economy. We have no other property and resources to compensate for our declining real wage and purchasing power," the WINS statement said.

"A legislated wage increase for government and private workers needs to be enacted soon. It is long overdue, it is fair and just."

The National Tripartite Wages and Productivity Board will determine the pay-sharing percentage levels, which Congress hopes to require companies to abide by, Domogan said.

"The House committee has come up with an initial decision of not granting (Bayan Muna's) proposal, but finds an alternative solution," he said.

"Bayan Muna representatives (are) putting up all efforts to pass the bill but it appears that employers cannot afford that increase based on the present status of the economy."

The Baguio protesters, led by Kilusang Mayo Uno members here, marched through Session Road and Magsaysay Avenue in the central business district, shouting protest slogans to air their demand for wage increases.

Other groups that participated in the rally were the Confederation for Unity, Recognition and Advancement of Government Employees, League of Filipino Students, Cordillera Peoples Alliance, Kalipunan ng Damayang Mahirap, Gabriela-Innabuyog, Progressive Igorots for Social Action, Anakbayan and Nagkakaisang Manggagawa ng Ramos Construction. ***Jovelyn Ramos and Leoncio Balbin Jr., with reports from Allan Macatuno and Thet Mesias, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau***

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Luzon and Visayas will experience cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms while Mindanao will be partly cloudy to at times cloudy with isolated rainshowers or thunderstorms.

SOURCE: PAGASA

Metro Manila	Cloudy with rains	Hi 32° Lo 24°
Baguio	Cloudy with rains	Hi 23° Lo 15°
Tuguegarao	Cloudy with rains	Hi 32° Lo 22°
Laoag	Cloudy with rains	Hi 31° Lo 24°
Clark Zone	Cloudy with rains	Hi 30° Lo 23°
Tagaytay	Cloudy with rains	Hi 28° Lo 20°
Legazpi	Cloudy with rains	Hi 30° Lo 25°
Calapan	Cloudy with rains	Hi 31° Lo 23°
Bacolod	Cloudy with rains	Hi 31° Lo 25°
Roxas	Cloudy with rains	Hi 31° Lo 25°
Cebu	Cloudy with rains	Hi 31° Lo 24°
Tacloban	Cloudy with rains	Hi 30° Lo 25°
Gen. Santos	Partly cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 24°
Zamboanga	Partly cloudy	Hi 31° Lo 24°
Cagayan de Oro	Partly cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 23°
Davao	Partly cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 23°

Compiled by: Ray Leyesa, PDI Research/09/15/01

Gov won't withdraw offer to host bandits' trial

BY ALEX PAL
PDI Visayas Bureau

DUMAGUETE CITY—Siquijor Gov. Orlando Fua Sr. seeks to allay critics of his offer to make Siquijor the venue for the trial of the cases involving suspected leaders and members of the Abu Sayyaf.

"I have continued my consultations. I have heard that the priests here are against (my offer). The problem is that those who are against it do not tell me (personally)," Fua told the INQUIRER in a phone interview.

He said he came to know about the objections to his offer after reading it in the INQUIRER.

These objections came from Siquijor natives who were already based in Manila and in Dumaguete City. They expressed concern on the security of their families, who are still in Siquijor, once the Abu Sayyaf trial was transferred to the island province.

"Why are they afraid of the Abu Sayyaf when there's nothing to be afraid (of)? It's like bringing tigers to Siquijor but these tigers are caged," Fua said.

Fua said he planned to write Justice Secretary Hernando Perez about his offer.

"It will be good if Perez bites this offer so the people of Siquijor will be able to see the Abu Sayyaf and how justice is done," he said.

The governor stressed that not all Muslims are bad. He pointed out he had been in Maguindanao, the home of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, and came out unharmed, even though he went around without a bodyguard.

"The bad Muslims are hiding in the mountains. In fact, the problem of the military is how to hunt them down because they are (in) hiding," Fua said.

Fua reiterated that the suspected members of the Abu Sayyaf, who would be brought to Siquijor for the trial, could not go out and harm the people.

"They are the manacled Abu Sayyaf, who are only the sympathizers of this terrorist group," he said.

While his offer may "sound corny," Fua maintained he just wants to help the country in his own small way.

"My motivation for this is for the national interest. I have always thought this way even when I was a congressman."

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3018, Series of 2001

Iloilo calls for 3-day vigil for terror victims

BY MA. DIOSA LABISTE
PDI Visayas Bureau

ILOILO CITY—Ilonggos have joined the world in mourning for the thousands of casualties in Tuesday's terrorist attacks on the United States.

Archbishop Angel Lagdameo of the Jaro Archdiocese has offered a nine-day novena for peace and justice for victims of the attacks on the World Trade Center in New York and on the Pentagon in Washington and for the passengers who died in a plane crash in Pennsylvania.

The city council has also declared a three-day mourning in "solidarity with the victims of the terrorist attacks recently made against the United States, and signifying our unity with all civilized nations in their fight against terrorism."

In a circular letter, Archbishop Angel Lagdameo said the novena will start on Sept. 15, the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows, and will end on Sept. 23, the 25th Sunday of the Catholic calendar.

He said the prayers would be said for victims of the attacks and for the global pursuit of peace.

Lagdameo said the thousands of people, who died in the terrorist attacks, moved Ilonggos' hearts with profound anguish and pain.

"As a Church, we fully express our solidarity with the victims and their families . . . Despite this tragic event we hold on to the faith that the light of peace will penetrate the current darkness of hatred and violence," the archbishop said.

The request for Mass and prayers was also contained in a circular letter from Archbishop Orlando Quevedo, president of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines.

In a resolution on Wednesday, the 15-member city council declared a three-day mourning from Sept. 17 to 19. The city council asked that the Philippine flag be flown half-staff all over the city during the three days.

The resolution was unanimously passed after a privilege speech delivered by majority councilor Joshua Alim, who condemned the attacks in New York and Washington D.C.

A copy of the resolution was sent to the US Embassy.

Members of the city council also used the recent attacks as a reminder that the city should take precautions because local terrorists may strike in the city.

They said police and private security groups should continue checking on the bags and belongings of people entering malls and other establishments.

Ilonggos watched in their living rooms the footage of hijacked planes crashing into the twin towers of the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, seat of the American military might.

Crowds gathered in malls and eateries here to watch the day-long coverage of international television networks.

An Internet service provider said that traffic in the Web was heavy, probably because many Ilonggos went on-line to check on the events in the United States.

EVACUEES RANDY HORMILLOSA

Farm animals are indispensable to many families in the provinces. Their importance was displayed during the recent evacuation of Aetas in Botolan, Zambales when Aetas, including this boy, left their mountain homes together with their animals.

'Voyadores': Drunken masters of Peñafrancia

BY ROLY EMBILE
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

LEGAZPI CITY—The feast of the Our Lady of Peñafrancia in honor of the Virgin Mary, which culminates on Sunday and every third Sunday of September, is the "mother" of all fiestas in the Bicol region, a place that takes its fiestas seriously.

Central to this month-long occasion are the processions of the image of *Ina* (as Bicolanos, especially Naga City folk, call the Virgin Mother) borne upon the shoulders of a throng of *voyadores*.

Many Bicolanos have no particular affection for the *voyadores* due mainly to the rowdiness that at times result in chaos during the religious processions on the eve of the fiesta and the *traslacion* a week earlier.

What probably separate the *voyadores* as unique among religious revelers is that they join the procession completely drunk.

To be able to last a three-hour-long procession in the midst of a heaving and sweating throng of at least a million devotees, they need to get "fuelled up" with alcohol, they explain.

So every *voyador* has to get really drunk, the Bicolano term is *burat*, to endure the sweltering heat, the collective stench of body odor and the crush accompanying this experience.

This is not a latter-day phenomenon, however, because it takes its root in the very character of how Filipinos, the Bicolanos in particular, enjoy themselves.

Prominent Bicol historian Danilo Gerona, in his book Epic to History, said heavy drinking takes precedence in the manner that Bicol folk celebrate their fiestas—which also includes dancing, singing and cockfighting.

Heavy drinking has always been a part of Bicol fiestas. In 1684, Fray Pedro de Avila, a Franciscan curate of Canaman town, complained of his parishioners' heavy drinking, especially during fiestas so that they failed to comply with their religious obligations.

In past processions, the troublesome *voyadores* have caused the image of the virgin to fall, or get dunked in the murky Naga River during the fluvial procession.

Only recently, church authorities of the Archdiocese of Nueva Caceres made a new stainless steel domed carrier for the image to discourage the *voyadores* and other devotees of *Ina* from mounting the *andas* to touch it or rub it with handkerchiefs.

But these unruly acts have been made popular because they are widely believed to cure illnesses and drive evil spirits away.

A similar incident three years ago resulted in a rather unreligious melee during the *traslacion*. This is the procession at the start of the novena, the nine-day preparation for the feast day of Peñafrancia when the image is brought from its shrine at the Basilica Minore to its old home at the Peñafrancia Cathedral.

Scores of *voyadores* were seriously hurt in three separate free-for-alls involving hundreds of *buracheros*, or drunk *voyadores*.

Despite bruises, black eyes and broken noses, however, the procession went on.

Although such occurrences are considered rare, many Naga residents fear that there might be a repeat of violence if authorities fail to curb such outbursts attendant to this age-old custom.

Others, however, believe that *Ina* will not let this happen again. After all, with their prayers of devotion, the Holy Mother has not been sparing in her miracles for the Bicolanos.

Capiz execs suspect group duping members

BY GERRY PAGHARION
PDI Visayas Bureau

ROXAS CITY—The Capiz provincial board is conducting an investigation of the so-called Zion's Camp International Foundation, which has been collecting registration fees from its clients in exchange for loans or scholarship grants.

Three committees of the provincial board have been tapped to conduct the inquiry.

These are the committees on trade and industry chaired by board member Fritz Cruz-Am; on police matters chaired by board member Cezar Talabucon; and on good government headed by board member Benjamin Distura.

Cruz-Am said the foundation has been collecting from its clients about P300 to P625 in registration fees upon its registration with the Securities and Exchange Commission in 1997.

He said a member was told that he or she could not be granted loans ranging from P10,000 to P50,000 unless he or she recruits 15 other new members.

The loans are interest-free and granted without any collateral, Cruz-Am said.

If the group has some 7,000 members in Capiz who paid registration fees of P625, Cruz-Am said the foundation might already have collected more than P4 million in the province alone.

Jonathan Villaraiz, the foundation's president, admitted during a joint committee hearing on Tuesday that not one of the estimated 7,000 members of the group in Capiz had availed themselves of the benefits promised by the foundation.

He, however, could not say when the foundation would release the loans or the scholarship grants to its members in Capiz.

But he assured the board members that many of these loans and scholarship grants were being processed.

Villaraiz said the foundation would return the registration fees of members who wanted out of the foundation.

₱500M in mercury seized by customs

DAVAO CITY—Customs officials here intercepted over the weekend some P500 million worth of smuggled mercury, apparently to be used in small-scale mining operations in the gold rush area of Monkayo, Compostela Valley.

Lawyer Fidel Kamaniag, deputy collector of the Bureau of Customs, said they received information that an Indonesian vessel has been suspiciously hauling the banned substance at the Makar Port of General Santos City.

Police intercepted a pick-up truck containing 10 cylinders of mercury weighing about 45 kilos.

The truck driver, a certain Ibas Abas, and companions Joel Baclayan and Adin Abas, were arrested and were taken into custody. They denied knowing that they were transporting mercury.

Mercury, despite being banned for its harmful effects, is still used by small-scale miners to separate gold from its ore.

Dennis Jay Santos, PDI Mindanao Bureau

ROUNDUP

Bananas for workers

DAVAO CITY—Members of various militant organizations here, who joined the nationwide campaign for wage increases, feasted on *nilagang saging* (boiled bananas) to highlight their demand for better pay. The boiled *saba*, militants said, symbolizes the Macapagal administration's reply to their demand for a P125 wage hike. Beth Nuyod of the Kilusang Mayo Uno said wage adjustment was one of the demands made by militant groups before Ms Macapagal assumed the presidency. However, she said, the government appears firm in rejecting that demand.

Jeffrey Tupas, PDI Mindanao Bureau

2 murder suspects held

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY—Two of the five suspects in the murder of Polish-American Jerry Langkauski and his househelp Joyce Daguan were arrested last week and charges are being prepared against them. Investigators identified the suspects as Nicole Arceo, who was arrested while boarding a jeep bound for the Cogon market and Jocelyn "Chaty" Bacoy who turned herself in. Arceo tagged Bacoy as the brains in the twin murder. Bacoy was a long-time friend of the slain American. Langkauski and Daguan died from multiple stab wounds. ***Grace Cantal-Albasin, PDI MindanaoBureau***

Family killed

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY—A family of three was killed when an Army truck belonging to the 401st Brigade based in Lanao rammed into the car they were riding in Barangay Balua here on Tuesday night. The victims were identified as Pacifico Bual, Nancy Bual and their son Michel. All three died on the spot. Sgt. Crisanto Dulanos, the truck driver, said he tried to avoid a passenger jeep that stopped in the middle of the road by overtaking it. The truck hit the car instead. ***Grace Cantal-Albasin, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

Holdup suspect falls

TABACO CITY—Police arrested a suspected member of a holdup gang, who has victimized businessmen here, five hours after the group held up a grocery van on Tuesday night. Chief Insp. Nilo Berdin, city chief of police, identified the suspect as Allan Bordorais, 26, a resident of Barangay Matagbac here. Bordorais' Uncle Ruben, the alleged gang leader, and three other unidentified gang members eluded arrest in their hideout in Barangay Guinobat here. The suspects held up an L-300 van of the Reyes Grocery and escaped in motorcycles, taking with them some P21,000 in cash. Berdin said they recovered from Bordorais three cal. .38 revolvers, three bonnets, a motorcycle, cash and belongings believed to be part of the gang's loot.

Job Belen, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Ulap's new officers

THE 1.2 MILLION-strong Union of Local Authorities of the Philippines (Ulap), the confederation of all leagues of local officials nationwide, has a new set of officers. Elected during Ulap's recent meeting were Davao del Norte Gov. Rodolfo del Rosario, president; Tagaytay City Mayor Francis Tolentino, executive vice president; Mayor Ramon Guico Jr., vice president for Luzon; Vice Gov. Julius Caesar Herrera, vice president for Visayas; Councilor Froilan Melendrez, vice president for Mindanao; Batangas Gov. Hermilando Mandanas, secretary general; James Marty Lao Lim, treasurer; Vice Mayor Jesus Cruz, auditor; and Alan Zulueta, public relations officer. Ulap is lobbying for an increase in the share of LGUs in the national income.

Delfin Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Traders seek help

LUCENA CITY—Businessmen here are complaining of increasing extortion by gangs victimizing Chinese-Filipino traders. City Mayor Ramon Talaga Jr. said the local chapter of the Filipino-Chinese Chamber of Commerce here sought his help in stopping the extortion. "The police are verifying reports whether the extortion messages sent by telephone and mail come from the New People's Army, or from criminal gangs," he said. Senior Supt. Danny Ramon Siongco, Lucena City chief of police, said they have formed a task force that will provide security to the Chinese-Filipino business community and arrest the perpetrators.

Delfin Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

INQUIRER Visayas
JUN BANDAYREL, Editor ■ EDRALYN L. BENEDICTO, Bureau Chief

'UGAT SANG TUBIG'

Environment program rules airwaves in Iloilo

BY MA. DIOSA LABISTE
Iloilo City

A DIFFERENT kind of radio program has been credited for pulling people together to care and work for the protection of critical watersheds in Iloilo province.

"Ugat Sang Tubig" (Source of Water), now on its fourth year, is as an environmental radio show designed to reach upland communities at the headwaters of the Tigum and Aganan watersheds.

Aired over dyFM Bombo Radyo every Sunday from 12 noon to 12:30 p.m., it has been rated No. 1 among radio programs in AM stations and No. 2 in both AM and FM categories.

But probably the best measure of the show's success is its role in forming 66 groups called Barangay Information Centers (BICs) in at least 10 towns in the province. The groups have launched environment projects, which included tree planting along riverbanks, putting up tree nurseries, recycling, and raising native chickens.

The BICs meet and discuss the modules taken up during the radio program to make these relevant to their localities. Some were able to fund their activities through the help of their barangay councils.

'Letters came and poems poured in. One listener called in to say she was touched by what the communities have initiated as a result of listening to the show.'

Beginnings

The radio program started in 1998 when the Kahublagan sang Panimalay Foundation Inc. (KSPFI) realized that radio was the best medium to reach people living in the watershed areas.

The foundation is organizing communities to protect the critical Maasin watershed along the Tigum River, with funds coming from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

Its executive director, Jessica Calfoforo-Salas, was tapped as one of the program hosts. The other hosts are Elsa Subong and Henny Cabado-Española who are noted for their strong advocacy of environment and women's issues.

At first, the program was funded by the Ford Foundation and the provincial government. When the Ford grant ended early this year, Ugat was forced to look for corporate sponsors to pay for its airtime.

In 1999, Ilonggo listeners started to take notice of the radio show despite its developmental format.

"Letters came and poems from our listeners poured in.

One listener called in to say she was touched by what the communities have initiated as a result of listening to the show," said Salas or "Manay Jess" to listeners.

The letter writers also sent *komposo* (traditional Ilonggo songs) that dwelled on how the radio show helped them realize the need to plant trees and segregate their wastes.

Inspired by the program, listeners started to organize themselves into the BICs to help protect the environment in their community.

The projects organized were launched in upstream and downstream communities, gradually changing an atmosphere of tension and antagonism between the two areas.

People in the downstream communities had criticized the upland dwellers for cutting trees for charcoal, thus causing floods in the plains.

On the other hand, the upland dwellers had accused those in the downstream areas of deprived them of land by converting the forest areas into tree plantations, where cutting is banned, just to be able to enjoy pipe water every day.

THE RECYCLING project at Barangay Balabag, Sta. Barbara, Iloilo, is one of the many projects established by communities after listening to the radio show "Ugat sang Tubig."
PHOTO COURTESY OF KAHUBLAGAN SANG PANIMALAY FOUNDATION

Ugat sang Tubig has successfully eased the tension between the two communities.

"Ugat promotes hydro-solidarity, a concept that all of us live within a catchment called watershed," Salas said. "If some communities abuse or misuse land and water resources, all of us suffer."

Hydro-solidarity also encourages the common use and protection of the watersheds, rivers and other water bodies, which are often beyond the territorial boundaries of a local government unit.

"Local government executives and their constituents have to talk to those in the neighboring town. Watershed demands that they have to mind their water business outside the fence," said Salas.

Young listeners

Public high schools in Iloilo have also tuned in to Ugat. Science teachers were encouraged to produce teaching guides from the weekly broadcasts.

Results of a survey conducted by the KSPFI in 1999 to determine the relevance of the radio program to the science curriculum showed that students found it relevant to their chemistry, biology and physics classes.

But the students also found the 30-minute show too short.

Ugat's championing of the watershed has been credited for the formation of the Watershed Management Council in Iloilo.

JESSICA Calfoforo-Salas, one of the hosts of the top-rated radio program.

Its members include mayors in the towns within and along the watersheds, with Gov. Niel Tupas and DENR Regional Director Raoul Geollegue as co-chairs.

The council will push for the rehabilitation of critical watersheds in the province.

Environmentalists say Iloilo has only an eight-percent forest cover, way below the ideal 40 percent to be able to support its water needs for agriculture, fishery and household use.

But with the help of the radio program, it is only a matter of time when Iloilo will recover its forest again.

Zapped

IT would not be an exaggeration to say that in the past few days, the atmosphere in Bacolod City had been electrically charged.

The Central Negros Electric Cooperative (Ceneco), which supplies the power needs of Bacolod and several neighboring towns and cities and is bedeviled by its debts to the National Power Corp., started swooping down on its biggest creditors. In the process, it also discovered that several establishments in the city's Goldenfield Commercial Complex, led by the area's owners, the Los Amigos Development Corp., had been running on pilfered electricity computed at P35.1 million.

BACOLOD EXCHANGE

Ninfa R. Leonardia

Ceneco's delay in cutting off power connections to the erring companies raised a hue and cry from small consumers who scored the co-op for the speed with which it snips off power from their homes for the slightest delay in paying their bills.

The co-op bore down on the establishments, forcing them to come up with an initial deposit of P3 million even as their lawyers went to town questioning the computation and managing to buy time for their clients.

Next on target was City Hall, which owes the co-op P27.6 million and for which it offered P3 million and a proposal for debt restructuring.

In Victorias City up north, 250 residents also raised an outcry when the Victorias Milling Co., itself struggling to recover from its own reversals of fortune, disconnected power to their homes.

A VMC official claimed the homeowners were not connected with the company and were consuming electricity amounting to about P105,000 daily. The intervention of local officials and the power co-op serving the area has temporarily settled the issue.

* * *

STILL related to electricity were the controversies over the proposals to install power-generating plants in the province.

Moves to put up a coal-fired plant in Pulupandan town have met vociferous objections from a local group. In nearby Talisay City, a plan to revive a bunker fuel-type of power plant has also met protests from environment-conscious residents.

And then there were the escalating protests against a project of the Philippine National Oil Co. to develop geothermal power sources in Bago City. The plan has already been given a go-signal by Congress.

Environmentalists pointed out that the project would mean the destruction of centuries-old trees at the Mt. Kanlaon Natural Park.

Joining the protesters were the new Bacolod bishop, Vicente Navarra, who openly campaigned against it.

The PNOC blinked and announced that it would build the plant away from the park even if this would mean a shorter life span of 15 years for the 40-megawatt plant instead of the original 25 years.

* * *

ANOTHER highly charged issue is the emergency cost-of-living allowance, or Ecola, of Bacolod's public school teachers, whose rejoicing over their victory in the Court of Appeals had quickly turned to woe.

When payment of their P1,000 monthly Ecola was stopped by then Mayor Oscar Verdeflor, the teachers went to court. After three years of waiting, they were vindicated by the Court of Appeals, which ruled that not only were they entitled to the benefit, they should also be paid for the years they were deprived of it.

The incumbent mayor, Luzviminda Valdez, pleaded that the city had no funds and told the mentors that the payment would be staggered. So they sat back. What a shock they all received when they found that the city attorney had filed a motion seeking a reconsideration of the court order.

* * *

ON SATURDAY afternoon, a Bacolod resident, who was a member of the Paghidaet Brotherhood Association, was shot dead over what was said to be a dispute involving donated land. The news would have drawn little attention had it not been discovered that the victim was one of three persons who filed a disqualification case against Valdez during the last election.

The man had earlier been injured in a hit-and-run incident involving a motorcycle shortly after the filing of the disqualification case.

Valdez called such recollections "malicious."

* * *

IN SIQUIJOR, residents are disturbed by the offer of their governor to have the trial of captured Abu Sayyaf bandits in their place.

When he announced his offer, Gov. Orlando Fua claimed that his province is small and easier to secure. Because of the size of its population, everybody else and any intruder will be easily recognized.

Natives of the province who now based elsewhere also raised anxieties, pointing out that Siquijor has only 150 policemen. How could this number contain the tricky Abu Sayyaf, which the current police and military forces have so far not been able to control?

This could be a facetious way of looking at the problem, but perhaps Fua has other "forces" that he can summon. Remember that Siquijor is where psychics, *arbularyos* and faith healers gather to recharge their powers during the Lenten season. The governor may have the strength that not even the President can muster.

Did Cebu mayor preempt Press Freedom rites?

BY JUAN L. MERCADO
Cebu City

DID the lifting of a selective ban on reporters by the mayor of Cebu City preempt the annual celebration of "Press Freedom Week," which starts this Sunday?

No, insists Mayor Tomas Osmeña. "Personal magnanimity" made him scrap a widely criticized ban he clamped on the reporters of radio station dyHP (Radio Mindanao Network) and Sun*Star Cebu.

Upon his re-assumption to office, on a razor-thin majority of 3,060 votes, the mayor excluded the reporters of the two outfits from his official press briefings. He insisted the radio station and the newspaper had a "political agenda."

Osmeña's interdict differs from the padlocking of newspapers by the Marcos dictatorship. Nor is it arm-twisting behind the scenes.

The late Gov. Sergio Osmeña, the mayor's father, muzzled the Southern Star that way in the 1950s. Osmeña Sr. also pressured Cebu firms to yank their advertisements from the Republic Daily, which was owned by his political rival, the Cuencos.

Decades later, then President Joseph Estrada cloned this tactic by prodding his cronies in the movie industry to bleed the Philippine Daily Inquirer through an ad boycott.

A ban, however, is a salami-type assault. It drives a wedge into a competitive industry. In July-August 1999, Estrada denied Inquirer reporters access to Malacañang press conferences. The reason was the threadbare charge of "irresponsible and malicious reporting."

OSMEÑA: Ban is a personal prerogative.
FILE PHOTO

Former journalist Jean Orendain noted that the Malacañang Press Corps did not object as a group. Neither did the normally cohesive Cebu journalists.

But "access to news events is absolutely fundamental to journalists to coverage and to serve (press freedom)," Wall Street Journal Online president Rich Jaroslovsky pointed out.

Thus, in Subido vs Ozaeta, the Philippine Supreme Court stressed that constitutional protection covered access. In fact, the United States District Court of Hawaii, in a decision, struck down Mayor Frank Fais' ban on a Honolulu Star Bulletin reporter.

"Only compelling government interest" can prop up such a ban, the Waikiki court ruled. A constitutionally protected liberty "cannot be rationed or dispensed piece-meal."

Estrada ignored that vital aspect of press freedom—and flopped. So did Pakistani Prime Minister Nawar Sharif who banned Jang newspaper reporters from Islamabad press conferences. Sharif is on exile now in the Middle East.

Mayor Osmeña has claimed that restoring access to news is a personal prerogative—one he can bestow or withhold. That has drawn flak.

"Even a Political Science 101 student knows that a basic human right cannot be held hostage to whim," the Sun*Star objected. This "makes a sham virtue out of constitutional chicanery."

The pooled editorial during the observance of the 1998 Cebu Press Freedom Week was broadcast by all stations in the province, and published by The Freeman, Cebu Daily News and Sun*Star Cebu. It warned against journalists mistaking press freedom for a special privilege.

"Make no mistake about it. (Press freedom) is a gift with strings attached. This is not constitutional largesse for those who carry a press card. That would drag us down to the level of 'hoodlums in *barong*, judicial robes or uniforms.

"Nor are we just complacent beneficiaries of unbridled reporting or comment. We are more.

"We are, first and last, trustees of this gift. As stewards, we're tasked to use the latitude this freedom provides for what is just and good."

Local exposés aborted a $500-million loan scam that titillated the preceding administration. But a free press is two-bladed; it also documented costly price overruns in Osmeña's Metro Cebu Development Program and ballooning foreign debt.

The Press Week will have seminars to assess professional performance. The evaluation will also consider City Hall bans and the notorious Provincial Capitol Memo 58, imposed by Gov. Pablo Garcia to block budget data.

Rights surrendered, in even small increments, can result in disaster. "And there are no freedoms so dangerous as those that are not exercised," India's Statesman editor Cushrow Iraini once warned.

Journalists are "prisoners of a necessary cause," says Peter Preston, editorial director of The Guardian Media Group in a brilliant International Press Institute address.

They write or broadcast "to make sure the world knows what's happening in what would otherwise be the dark recesses of people behaving at their worst."

Some journalists do this task brilliantly. Many just get by. Some are incompetent and should be fired. And there are the corrupt who sell out.

As "prisoners of a necessary cause," the good, the sloppy and the so-so "must stand against the tide," whether it be City Hall, Capitol, Congress or Malacañang. Journalism becomes a barricade on which journalists encounter opposition, concision and, sometimes, personal peril.

"But you have to be on the side of (liberty of expression)," Preston argues. "Because there is no other side to be on."

US readies $40 billion vs terrorism

(From page A1)

Republicans and Democrats in the US Congress put aside their party differences to back Bush's avowed response to the attacks, but stopped short of giving him a military *carte blanche*.

"President Bush knows he will have the unanimous support of members of both houses (of Congress) when he decides where, when and how to unleash, as (President) Roosevelt said in the '40s, 'the righteous might of the United States' against those who attacked us on Tuesday," said Sen. Joseph Lieberman.

Bush pledged Thursday to lead the world to victory over terrorism as an international manhunt targeted the masterminds of the worst terror attack on US soil.

Responding with rare unison, lawmakers said they would grant Bush the powers and financial might needed to respond to the attacks.

Broadly worded language

The spending agreement was worked out late in the afternoon, minutes before the Capitol was evacuated for about half an hour after bomb-sniffing dogs detected a suspicious odor in a Senate office.

In broadly worded language, the agreement said $40 billion would go to attack victims; costs by the federal and local governments for rescue, cleanup and rebuilding efforts; and improved security for transportation systems.

It could also be used "to counter, investigate or prosecute domestic or international terrorism" and for "supporting national security"—which could give Bush wide leeway to use funds to strike back at terrorists and their supporters.

Both parties also seemed eager to approve separate legislation endorsing a presidential use of force against those responsible for the attacks.

Participants said completion of that bill could slip to next week, complicated by the age-old jealousy between the two branches of government over the power to wage war.

In 1964, Congress approved the Gulf of Tonkin resolution authorizing President Lyndon B. Johnson "to take all necessary measures" to protect US forces and prevent aggression.

Johnson and subsequent presidents used that resolution to wage the Vietnam War, to the subsequent regret of many lawmakers.

The US Constitution gives the president, as commander in chief, authority to wage war while leaving to Congress the power to declare war.

Bush formally requested the $20 billion earlier Thursday—roughly one-third of what it cost for the 1991 Persian Gulf War, and about what Congress provided for the justice department this year.

The Senate also agreed late Thursday to broaden the nation's wiretapping laws, making crimes involving terrorism a reason for tapping into telephones and computers for the first time.

That provision was added by voice to a bill providing $42 billion for the commerce, justice and state departments for next year. The bill then was approved 97-0.

The measure is part of an appropriations bill that goes next to a House-Senate conference committee to hammer out a final version.

Lightning speed

Leaders hoped to push the spending measure through the House as early as Friday, with the Senate to follow. A Saturday session of Congress was looking increasingly likely.

At a Capitol meeting that ran past midnight Thursday, top lawmakers and White House officials agreed that half the package would be available virtually immediately, and half after details are spelled out in subsequent legislation.

Administration officials had hoped that Congress would approve the measure in time for Bush to tout it when he visited New York on Friday.

Even so, approval of such a vast sum just days after the attacks would be lightning speed for a Congress that usually takes weeks or months to approve money for anything.

"We are shoulder to shoulder. We are in complete agreement that we will act together as one," said House Democratic Leader Dick Gephardt (Missouri).

Also on Thursday, the House voted to give families of terror victims tax breaks normally reserved for casualties in war zones. The Internal Revenue Service announced several items of tax relief for affected people and businesses, including those outside the immediate disaster areas.

House Republicans also said they were putting together a broader economic stimulus package including a capital gains tax cut.

The victims' relief bill was expected to sail through the Senate, although the timing was uncertain.

Public opinion

The NBC News survey indicated that 80 percent of the respondents approved of Bush's handling of the crisis so far. Eight percent disapproved, 12 percent were not sure.

Eighty-three percent supported "forceful military action" against those responsible, even at the risk of retaliation or the threat of war. Eight percent opposed that, 9 percent were not sure.

Seventy-seven percent "strongly" favored launching air strikes against terrorists when they are identified, while 57 percent "strongly" favored military action against any nation that gives safe haven to terrorists.

The CBS News poll showed that 76 percent of those surveyed approved of Bush's handling of the situation while 9 percent disapproved.

Bush's overall approval rating has also soared to 72 percent, up from 50 percent two weeks ago, according to the CBS poll.

Ninety percent were confident in the US government's ability to catch the people who planned the attacks, with 55 percent saying they were very confident.

The CBS survey also showed that 71 percent of Americans supported retaliatory action by the United States while 18 percent opposed it. Fifty-five percent said the attacks would in fact likely lead to war.

The NBC poll of 618 adults was conducted by the firm Hart/Teeter and had a margin of error of plus or minus four percentage points.

That of CBS was conducted among 1,041 adults and had a margin of error of plus or minus 5 percent.

'Statement of authority'

On Thursday, Democratic Senate Majority Leader Thomas Daschle said lawmakers were working on a resolution that would "provide a clear statement of authority."

"At the same time, we want to make sure we've thought it through and that it's not language that we would later all regret," he said. "It's just called taking a look at it, making sure that you know what you're doing. And to take just a few hours to do what is the responsible thing to do."

Sen. John Warner (Virginia) was less reticent.

"The resolution, which I and others are working on will be far stronger (and) send a much more resolute message throughout our nation and the world that this President and Congress, and the people of the US, stand squarely behind the Commander in Chief and our armed forces when he gives the order," Warner said.

Negotiations continued Thursday on the exact wording of the document, with lawmakers apparently unfazed by an emergency evacuation order of the domed Capitol building, where the Congress meets.

"I guess nowadays nothing should really surprise you any more," said Sen. John McCain. ***Reports from AP, AFP***

2 black boxes found; suspected hijackers held

(From page A1)

Tuesday as up to 10 people of Middle Eastern descent were detained at two New York airports.

At least 10 travelers of Middle Eastern descent who were detained at two New York airports have been cleared of any connection with Tuesday's attacks, Sen. Joseph Biden said.

At least three were removed at gunpoint from a Los Angeles-bound jet, sources told the Associated Press.

At least some of the people detained Thursday were carrying knives, according to published reports. Authorities were investigating whether the two groups—detained at Kennedy and La Guardia airports—were more would-be hijackers or people related to the attack trying to flee the New York area.

One man was arrested with a fake pilot's license, Police Commissioner Bernard Kerik said. Several of those detained had attempted to board airlines Tuesday around the time of the hijackings but were turned away and fled, a US official said.

The incidents caused the region's three major airports—Kennedy, La Guardia and Newark, New Jersey—to close again just hours after service was restored.

Still at large

Four US officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said that authorities were investigating the possibility that some terrorists involved with Tuesday's plots were still at large.

The FBI sent the airline industry a list of 52 people wanted for questioning. Airlines were asked to alert agents if any of the individuals were spotted.

The FBI searched the country and abroad for possible suspects who had recent flight training, ties to the hijackers or their backers, or attempted to enter the United States recently, said these officials.

Agents have been examining passenger lists of flights that were not hijacked on Tuesday, to find matches with people who fit this profile, the officials said.

The concerns are also being driven by fresh intelligence suggesting a continuing threat, the officials added.

The information "suggests we haven't seen the end of this current threat," one US official said. He cited concerns terrorists might strike in a different manner now that airport security has been beefed up.

Anti-US sentiments

The night before the terrorist attacks on New York and Washington, three men spewed anti-American sentiments in a bar and talked of impending bloodshed, said a Daytona Beach strip club manager interviewed by the FBI.

"They were talking about what a bad place America is. They said 'Wait 'til tomorrow. America is going to see bloodshed,'" said John Kap, manager of the Pink Pony and Red Eyed Jack's Sports Bar. Kap said they made the claims to a bartender and a patron.

Federal agents were investigating on several fronts in Florida on Thursday after searching homes and rental car documents and poring over flight school student records across the state.

Agents believe there were individual cells operating out of Venice, Vero Beach, Pompano Beach and Daytona Beach—all in Florida—where one of the hijackers on each plane had received some training on how to pilot large aircraft.

Kap said he told FBI investigators the men in his bar spent $200 to $300 apiece on lap dances and drinks, paying with credit cards. Kap said he gave the FBI credit card receipts, photocopied driver's licenses, a business card left by one man and a copy of the Quran that was left at the bar.

The FBI asked him not to reveal the men's names publicly, Kap said. He said they lived in three central Florida communities between Daytona Beach and Orlando.

A number of people questioned in connection with the plot have been arrested for immigration violations and were in the custody of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, a Justice Department official said.

The department had previously said people were detained, including at least a half dozen in Massachusetts and Florida, because of immigration problems. But it wasn't until late Thursday that officials revealed that those people had been arrested.

The INS has 48 hours after arrest to charge someone violating immigration rules. Some of those detained could be charged Friday, said the official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

No one has yet been charged in Tuesday's attacks.

In Minnesota, the possibility emerged that the FBI knew before Tuesday's attack of at least one Arab man seeking the type of flight training the hijackers received.

Flight training in Minnesota

US officials confirmed that a few weeks ago the FBI detained an Arab man in Minnesota when he tried to seek flight simulator training for a large jetliner. Those who hijacked the four airliners received similar training.

Officials said the FBI had no reason to charge him at the time and instead began deportation proceedings. Those proceedings were ongoing when the attacks took place Tuesday, and he was re-detained.

He was not cooperating with the FBI.

Attorney General John Ashcroft said a total of 18 hijackers took over the four planes. The Justice Department had planned to release the hijackers' names and photos, but pulled back late Thursday.

All were ticketed passengers but some may have used aliases, officials said.

Elsewhere, authorities were looking for a Muslim cleric who previously was questioned by prosecutors in the 1990s embassy bombings case linked to bin Laden.

The cleric, Moataz Al-Hallak, left the Northeast on Monday, the day before the attacks, and traveled to Texas, according to authorities and his lawyer.

Al-Hallak's lawyer, Stanley Cohen, said FBI agents want to question his client about whether he told people about the attacks before they occurred.

"I asked Moataz about it, and he was shocked and just laughed. It's preposterous," Cohen said.

Al-Hallak appeared before a grand jury in New York in the case of the US Embassy bombings in Africa linked to Osama bin Laden. He was never charged with wrongdoing.

A number of people that could be involved in the plot were detained overnight for having false identification, Justice Department spokeswoman Mindy Tucker said.

While investigators pieced together evidence, two former Florida flight school students were identified by German authorities as terrorists aboard the two planes that smashed into the World Trade Center.

Hamburg investigators said Mohamed Atta, 33, and Marwan Alshehhi, 23, had studied at the Technical University in Hamburg and were from the United Arab Emirates. Both men received pilot training at Huffman Aviation, a flight school in Venice, Florida, where FBI investigators are examining student records.

FBI investigators learned that Atta and Alshehhi also took two three-hour courses at SimCenter Inc. in Opa-locka, said Brian George, son of flight school owner Henry George.

"We were completely stunned and shocked," Brian George said Thursday. "My father said that if he didn't have a family to support, he would stop teaching tomorrow. To think that someone would take what he taught them and turn it into a weapon."

Both men trained on a Boeing 727 full-motion simulator, he said.

The FBI issued a bulletin for authorities to look out for a silver 1996 Chrysler Plymouth and its possible driver Amer Kamfar, a flight engineer who listed a Saudi Airlines post office box as his address in Federal Aviation Administration records and lived in Vero Beach, Florida.

Saudi engineer

Agents were questioning Saudi flight engineer Adnan Bokhari, 41, whom a county sheriff's official said was cooperating with FBI inquiries. Bokhari was a student at Flight Safety, which trains commercial jet crews.

Neighbor Wendy Harp said her 12-year-old daughter often played with Bokhari's children and she called a sheriff's investigator Thursday because she was concerned about her family's safety.

"He said Bokhari was being very cooperative and at this time he didn't feel there was any reason to believe that he was directly involved," Harp said. "It looks like he had an association with someone else who was involved."

FBI officials in Washington and Miami would not comment Thursday.

Agents searched four Vero Beach homes, including Bokhari's and the house next door, where another Flight Safety student, Abdulrahman Alomari, lived with his wife and four children.

An apparent relative of Bokhari, Ameer Bokhari, was a student pilot at Flight Safety Academy when he was killed in a mid-air collision exactly a year before Tuesday's attack.

Kamfar, 41, was listed as living at the same address as Alomari at different times. He previously was issued a driver's license in Venice, California.

Landlord Lonny Mixel said Thursday that Alomari arrived in July 2000 and told him he was a commercial pilot from Saudi Arabia and was in Vero Beach to attend Flight Safety Academy. Alomari said he would be out of the house by the end of August. Then he pushed the date back until Sept. 3 and moved out that day.

FBI agents were also interviewing three Saudi flight engineers who are taking classes at Flight Safety Academy, company spokesman Roger Ritchie said Thursday. He declined to identify the students.

The school does not have simulators for Boeing 767 and 757 aircraft such as the ones involved in Tuesday's attacks, Ritchie said.

Thomas Quinn, a New York-based spokesman for Saudi Arabian Airlines, said many of the airline's pilots came to the United States for flight training. Foreign students must be sponsored by an airline to attend Flight Safety.

FBI agents also sought information on a graduate of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach, The News-Journal of Daytona Beach reported.

Citing two unidentified law enforcement sources, the newspaper reported that Waleed Al Shehri, 25, was listed as a passenger on the American Airlines flight that left Boston and crashed into the World Trade Center.

Al Shehri graduated from Embry-Riddle in 1997 with a bachelor's degree in aeronautical science, the university's commercial pilot training degree, and is listed as having a commercial pilot's license.

German investigators believe Atta and Alshehhi belonged to a terror group formed "with the aim of carrying out serious crimes together with other Islamic fundamentalist groups abroad, to attack the United States in a spectacular way through the destruction of symbolic buildings," chief federal prosecutor Kay Nehm told a press conference in Karlsruhe.

There was no immediate link to Osama bin Laden, but they did have links to other terror cells abroad, Nehm said.

In Pompano Beach, FBI agents went Wednesday night to Warrick's Rent-A-Car to confiscate rental contracts, receipts and Visa credit card charge slips on a series of three rentals by Atta beginning Aug. 6, owner Brad Warrick said Thursday.

"He appeared to me to be just a very conscientious, nice businessman," Warrick said. "I'm really just a little small, hole-in-the-wall rental office . . . We're an inconspicuous place to go."

Acting on a tip from the FBI, police in Hamburg detained one man and were seeking another. The police did not say how the detainee might have been linked to the attacks.

Azores Islands

An FBI official was headed for the Azores Islands to interview two Iranians detained a week ago after they tried to travel to Canada with fake passports, authorities said. Mexican Defense Secretary Gen. Rafael Macedo said officials are searching the country for at least nine people who may have helped plan the attacks.

In Manila, US and Philippine investigators raided Bayview Park Hotel, near the US Embassy. No arrests were made.

In Italy, police reopened an investigation into an April incident in which someone stole a uniform, a badge, two US passports and other documents from two Americans Airlines pilots in Rome., the Los Angeles Times said. The badge could be used for access to offices of the airline worldwide. ***AP***

More than 5,000 dead and missing

(From page A1)

Add to that total the 266 passengers and crew members who died aboard the four planes that hit the World Trade towers, the Pentagon and a field near Pittsburgh, and the total dead in Tuesday's carnage could be higher than the death toll from Pearl Harbor and the Titanic combined.

A total of 2,390 Americans died at Pearl Harbor in December 1941, and the sinking of the Titanic claimed 1,500 lives.

Underlining the horror, New York brought in 30,000 body bags for pieces of human remains.

"Even scary movies do not happen like this," said Enver Kesti, 42, a pizza chef who returned to clean up a gourmet shop that once sat in the towers' shadows.

In addition to entire bodies extracted from the ruins of the World Trade Center, "we also have the gruesome, horrible situation where we recover body parts, and there are 70 people in that category. There are 70 body parts," Giuliani said.

"I am sorry I have to describe it that way," he added.

"They will be numbered for identification" by forensic examiners, he added.

Earlier, Michael Baden, the city's former chief medical examiner, said many bodies must have been cremated in the split-seconds after the attack, and that others now buried under thousands of tons of rubble would be identified by DNA analysis, if at all.

Among the missing were 202 firefighters, 154 Port Authority workers, 57 police officers and 38 employees of a building management company.

The total also included the 157 passengers and crew known to have been on board the planes, which exploded in huge fireballs that spewed out of upper floors of the 110-story twin towers, Giuliani said.

He said 94 bodies had been recovered so far, and that 46 of them had been identified.

Giuliani said about 6,000 tons of debris had been removed from the disaster area.

But that was only a fraction of the mountain of shattered glass, concrete and twisted metal that had once been the pride of New York, and he estimated that it would take between two and three weeks to clear the site.

Earlier, a senior defense official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said about 70 bodies had been recovered from the rubble of the Pentagon.

Countries around the world, including the Philippines, also began to count the number of their citizens killed or missing. ***(See related story on page A4.)***

Washington

According to another report, the US Defense Department said on Thursday 126 people were still missing in Washington, suggesting a possible death toll of about 190 at US military headquarters, including the 64 people aboard the commandeered flight.

The first official tally of the missing was far lower than the worst-case scenario of up to 800 cited shortly after Tuesday's blitz by fire chief Ed Plaugher of Arlington County, Virginia, where the Pentagon is located.

The highest-ranking victim appears to have been a three-star general who was the Army's personnel chief, a defense official said.

Defense officials said more than 60 bodies had so far been recovered. They were being sent to a military morgue at Dover Air Force Base in Delaware, where forensic specialists worked to identify the remains.

Those unaccounted for in Washington included 68 Army personnel, including 47 civilians; six army contractors; 42 navy personnel, including nine civilians; and 10 defense agency personnel.

Websites

Two websites listed thousands of names of people who worked or lived near the disaster in New York.

"If you have survived the World Trade Center attack or know someone who has, please add their name to our list," said a message on www.ny.com. It asked users to note the survivors' conditions.

A similar website was also established by Battery Park City, a residential complex near the World Trade Center.

State officials were also counting. Nearly 200 state government workers and an unknown number of private-sector employees couldn't be located, they said.

About 300 state workers and more than 3,000 employees of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey worked in the towers.

Also missing Wednesday were some of the 900 people employed by the state Attorney General's Office in a building near the World Trade Center.

There was some good news from the towers' largest tenant, the Morgan Stanley firm, which employed 3,500 people on 20 floors in both towers.

"It certainly looks like the vast majority of our people got out, and we are fortunate," said Ira Miller, Morgan Stanley's branch manager in Rochester, N.Y. ***Reports from AFP, AP, Reuters***

Moratorium on House probes? Unthinkable

(From page A1)

Mitra (Laban, Palawan).

"What would the House do if its power to investigate is sequestered, even temporarily? The Philippines is already an over-legislated state. But a surfeit of scams should keep the House busy," he said.

The image of the House of Representatives took another beating when two House leaders accused five congressmen of each demanding P2 million from two telecommunications companies in exchange for kid-glove treatment in an impending investigation into their plan to cut free texting.

Dubbed the "Gang of 5," the congressmen denied the allegations and counter-attacked, accusing their accusers of acting in behalf of the Globe Telecoms and Smart Communications to discredit them.

In came Speaker De Venecia, who asked the contending congressmen to hold their punches. Yesterday, after his own discreet investigation, he cleared the five congressmen of any irregular activities, announced that the Gang of 5 does not exist, and declared the case closed.

He said Smart and Globe had confirmed that that they had not been asked—nor had they given—any amount by any congressman.

"In the absence of hard facts and evidence that could sustain allegations against any member of the House, I ask the House members to stop issuing any more statements, to put an end to name-calling in the media," De Venecia said.

Then he proposed the moratorium on House investigations.

But Mitra, a neophyte lawmaker and son of the late Speaker Ramon Mitra, said a moratorium is like curbing press freedom, a right that is "better unintentionally abused occasionally than not used at all."

If there is a gag order on House members, he argued, "then there will be nobody left to check on the abuses of the Executive, which has a surplus of thieves but a shortage of people who will prevent them."

He warned of a "boom of anomalies without the House acting as whistle-blowers."

De Venecia on Thursday announced the suspension of all ongoing House investigations. He also declared a six-month suspension of the House's investigative functions, limiting its use to issues of grave national importance.

Accused of squeezing out millions of pesos from cell phone companies, Smart and Globe during the House inquiry on the proposed cuts in free text messaging services, the alleged "gang" members have all issued angry denials.

Ironically, it was Mitra's senior colleague in the opposition, Minority Leader Carlos Padilla, who issued the first call for such a moratorium two weeks ago.

De Venecia said in a press statement that a "discreet inquiry" he conducted "showed no firm evidence, or complaints from businessmen against the congressmen.

In proposing a moratorium on House investigations, he said: "The Filipino people are fed up with too many investigations, intrigues and factional fighting."

He said the government has to "act vigorously to reignite local business, renew the flow of foreign investments into the country and restore the economy to the path of growth."

"Our people need jobs, food on the table, shelter over their heads, and education for their children . . . not more of negative, destructive politics," he added.

SAUDIA pilot Bokhari detained at the Naia: What brother? ROGER MARGALLO

NY hijacker . . .

(From page A1)

around 4:30 p.m.

"What brother?" a flushed Bokhari said when asked by Naia immigration chief Samuel Vallada if Adnan Bokhari was his brother.

"We have very reliable information that they are brothers," said Immigration Commissioner Andrea Domingo, who was at the airport to oversee Bokhari's arrest.

There are four Bokhari brothers who are all pilots, Domingo said.

Agents of the National Intelligence Coordinating Agency took custody of Bokhari for investigation. Another pilot of Saudia Airlines took his place on the scheduled flight.

Earlier in the day, Domingo issued a hold-departure order on Bokhari, invoking national security.

It was the sudden change of pilots of the Saudia flight to Jeddah that "alarmed" immigration officers, Domingo said.

She said the name of the scheduled pilot, a Captain Alyamani, had been crossed out and replaced with that of Bokhari in the manifest.

Bokhari piloted a Saudia plane to Manila on Tuesday.

Raid

According to Tiglao, Philippine authorities raided Bayview Hotel on Sept. 12 after US officials informed the Philippine government that the name of one of the three men questioned by police had appeared in the flight manifest of one of the hijacked planes used in the terrorist attacks.

He said police picked up the three men on Sept. 8 after they were seen taking video footage of the US Embassy, which is across from the hotel.

The three were identified in a police report as Khalid Abdullah, Ahmed Darwish Mohammed and Bader Darwish Mohammed—all surnamed Al-Sheihhi and carrying Omani passports.

They arrived in Manila separately on Sept. 1 and 7 from Bangkok and checked in at the same time at the Bayview on Sept. 7.

Tiglao said the three were released after police checked their tapes and found that these "contained standard tourist images of *calesas* and so forth."

The three checked out of the Bayview on Sept. 9 and took flights bound for Bangkok. They were booked at the hotel until Sept. 10.

Tiglao said that on Sept. 12, a police team accompanied by a US technician checked the hotel room where the three men had been billeted.

"An initial swipe of the room tested positive for TNT chemicals, although a second swipe yielded negative results, which means that the investigation was inconclusive," he said.

Asked if the presence of the three men in Manila was an indication that an attack on the US Embassy was being planned, Tiglao said there was no basis to make a conclusion.

"We can't say, but it's a matter of speculation why they were taking videos and why, after they were accosted by the police, they left the next day," he said.

National Security Adviser Roilo Golez echoed this line, noting that the questioning of the three was a result, not of an intelligence effort, but of information provided by US Embassy guards.

Tiglao also defended the authorities' decision to release the three, saying that police had no basis to hold them.

"They didn't have any charge to pin on the Omani nationals. They couldn't have foreseen the Sept. 11 attacks. It was only later when the worldwide alert (was issued) about the activities of terrorist groups that they had to check (the room)," he said.

Golez said members of the Philippine National Police and the Armed Forces continued to be vigilant.

He also said the government had decided to deploy "air marshals" on Philippine flag carriers on international flights.

Declassified info

At the news conference in Tokyo, the President was initially hesitant to give any information on how the Philippine government was coordinating with US authorities regarding the Sept. 11 attacks.

But right in the middle of it, she decided to call PNP Director General Leandro Mendoza in Manila to ask what portions of the information he gave her could be announced to the media.

After talking to Mendoza on her cell phone, she shared the declassified information with the Japanese media. It was four hours later that Malacañang released the report on the Bayview incident.

The President also said she was willing to allow the use of Subic and Clark if these were needed by the Americans in any action they would take against those responsible for the attacks.

During socials in her hotel Thursday night with Manila-based reporters covering her visit, the President was asked about the Philippine government's actions with regard to the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

"Right now, for instance, the CIA and the police in the Philippines are already working together on evidence gathering," she said.

At yesterday's news conference, she said Philippine police had also reconstructed and sent to the United States information gathered from Abdul Hakim Murad, an accomplice of Ramzi Ahmed Yousef who masterminded the 1993 bombing of the World Trade Center.

"(During) the interrogation of (Murad), there were many pieces of information that he revealed which are now material to the investigation regarding the incident in New York," the President said.

Bojinka

One important confession extracted from Murad when he was arrested by the PNP in January 1995 was the supposed plan of Yousef to plant explosives in US airlines and detonate these over the Pacific.

The plan was codenamed "Bojinka."

Murad was arrested during a police raid at the Josefa Apartments in Malate, Manila, a week before Pope John Paul II arrived in the Philippines.

He was turned over to US authorities three months later to stand trial in the United States in connection with the 1993 World Trade Center bombing and the planting of a bomb in a Philippine Airlines flight bound for Tokyo on Dec. 11, 1994.

The bomb, placed under the seat of a Japanese national, exploded and killed the passenger.

Officials had said the bombing of the plane was a test run for later attacks on US airlines.

The arrest of Murad led police to the trail of Yousef, who was picked up in Pakistan on Feb. 7, 1995, through the efforts of Philippine, American and Pakistani authorities.

Murad had also disclosed Yousef's alleged links with the Abu Sayyaf. He had said that Yousef met with Abu Sayyaf leaders in Manila in 1994 to coordinate the training of the band's members in Mindanao.

Mohammed Jamal Khalifa, a brother-in-law of suspected international terrorist Osama bin Laden, had reportedly used Islamic charity organizations as conduits to give money to the Abu Sayyaf.

Khalifa had been described by Philippine authorities as an associate of six supposed Muslim extremists who were arrested in Caloocan City in 1995.

The six were alleged associates of Yousef and Murad.

Bush hails, condoles with New Yorkers

(From page A1)

the country, and the European Union, in an unprecedented move, called for an official day of mourning across the 15-nation bloc, with three minutes of silence set to begin at 1000 GMT. Several other countries were to join in the observances.

In the veritable war zone that was once lower Manhattan, rescuers pressed on, despite heavy overnight rain, with their search for human remains in piles of masonry—all that is left of the 110-floor twin towers of the World Trade Center.

Swirling dust kept visibility limited and sanitation trucks waged a losing fight against the residue of the terrorist attacks. Rain and lightning were heavy at times, muddying the area already replete with debris, though the rain helped clear the air.

But one city emergency information worker who was at the rescue site most of the night said he never saw the work halt.

It was the first wave of bad weather to hit the city since Tuesday's attacks. Rescuers had until now benefited from good weather, with temperatures climbing as high as 30 degrees Celsius.

Early on Friday, there was a glimmer of hope at the site, when a police official said 10 police officers had been found alive under the rubble. But local authorities later retracted the report.

The lone bit of bright news was the recovery of two firefighters who slipped into an underground pocket beneath the rubble while searching for survivors on Thursday. The two radioed for help and were rescued by fellow firefighters several hours after they fell.

Awful search

Hundreds of distraught family members continued to search for any sign of their loved ones.

At a grief center set up for families with missing relatives, Jeanine Nardone arrived to look for her brother. She had hung his photo in a Brooklyn subway station, hoping someone would recognize Mario Nardone—a 32-year-old Staten Islander, bald with blue eyes, who worked on the 83rd floor of Two World Trade Center.

"He's a strong person," Nardone said. "He would not give up on us. And I'm not going to give up on him."

Many family members stopped by the armory-turned-counseling center established by the city. Looking south from there, the seemingly endless plume of acrid, white smoke from the wreckage still corkscrewed above the Manhattan skyline.

Former US President Bill Clinton visited the site, hugging and comforting many weeping family members who begged him to help them find their missing.

At Bellevue Hospital, a blue wall erected around a construction site was covered with pictures and descriptions of the missing, and prayers for safe returns.

The difficulties of extracting bodies from the rubble of the World Trade Center meant that while 184 deaths had been confirmed, city officials prepared to watch the total soar. *(See related story on Page A1.)*

The missing included nearly 400 city firefighters and police officers. Another 2,300 people were injured.

At One Liberty Plaza, an office building near the trade center site, volunteers were evacuated when the top 10 stories of the complex appeared unsteady. Workers fled, sprinting down the street.

Aid offers

New York's tragedy was also the world's, and by Thursday, from China to Mexico, tens of thousands of anxious relatives around the globe had swamped offices and telephone hotlines set up by their governments to gather information on their citizens.

And the dramatic scenes from the rubble have spurred a flood of aid offers from around the globe.

In the Gaza Strip on Wednesday, Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat participated in a blood drive for US victims. Supplies of blood have also been made available by Red Cross branches in several countries.

Foreign governments, aid agencies and corporations were eager yesterday to join efforts to find survivors, identify victims and support victims' families.

Payback time

For some, it was payback time for past American kindness.

Turkish search and rescue group AKUT assembled a 12-man team to assist US relief efforts, its chairman Nasuh Mahruki said Thursday.

The United States donated millions of dollars in aid to Turkey after deadly earthquakes in 1999 killed at least 18,000 people. AKUT played a key role in efforts to rescue people from collapsed buildings.

The Dalai Lama on Thursday donated $30,000 to the relief effort on behalf of the people of Tibet. The exiled Tibetan leader, who relies heavily on private US support, said in a statement that the money was a "symbolic gesture of our solidarity with the people of New York City."

A Belgian team including burn specialists and experts in victim identification was flown to Iceland to await instructions from the United States.

Teams of experts from France, Sweden, Ireland, Spain, Italy, Finland and the Netherlands were also mobilized and put on standby.

Britain, which fears hundreds of its citizens are buried within the World Trade Center, said Friday it was sending a police team to help identify British victims. Germany has offered medical evacuation planes. Norway and Japan are among other nations that have expressed a desire to help.

German-American automaker DaimlerChrysler AG said Thursday it would donate $10 million for the children of World Trade Center victims and set up bank accounts in both countries for individual donations. Canadian banks have also launched relief drives.

Pentagon search

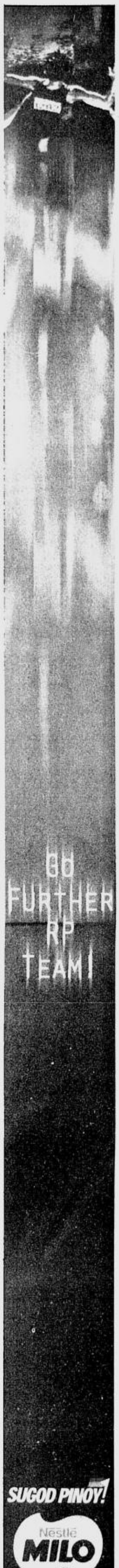
At the Pentagon in Washington, where 60 bodies were recovered, the recovery effort was interrupted for about two hours after a telephoned bomb threat prompted evacuation of search crews at about 7:30 a.m. An official said the FBI arrested a man shortly afterward but gave no details.

Flames briefly leaped anew from the damaged portion of the Pentagon late on Thursday before being knocked down by firefighters using hoses. A stubborn blaze that raged in the damaged portion of the massive building had been put out on Wednesday.

Recovery operations were hampered as workers used 20-foot-long oak plinths—railroad ties—to shore up huge slabs that threatened to cave in on them.

About half the 23,000 military personnel and civilian workers were at their desks on Thursday in undamaged parts of the complex, where the chief order of business appeared to be drawing up plans to retaliate.

A statement posted on the department website said: "The Pentagon returns to full operations on Thursday, Sept. 13. All personnel scheduled to work should report for duty." ***Reports from AFP, AP, Reuters***



Garcia hopes RP stays 4th

KUALA LUMPUR—The Filipinos have bettered their gold medal output in Brunei, now their goal is to clinch fourth place overall in the 21st Southeast Asian Games here.

PSC-POC Task Force chair Richie Garcia said that a good finishing kick would keep them on track on improving on their fifth place finish in Brunei

Garcia said with 22 golds after six days of action and with still a lot of medal potentials still out in the field, chances are the country would be able to finish behind traditional powers Malaysia, Thailand and Indonesia.

More winning efforts, according to Garcia, are expected from the fancied men's basketball squad, bowling, tennis, gold, track and field and boxing.

"The next two days will be crucial in our neck-and-neck fight with Vietnam. Hopefully, some other teams will deliver surprise hits for the contingent," said Garcia as he assessed the situation with PSC Chair Butch Tuason at the Crown Princess Hotel.

The pool of coaches had earlier made a fearless forecast of at least 40 golds, which the PSC felt was "attainable" but a series of setbacks in boxing dealt a big blow to it. Only bantamweight Arlan Lerio has made it to the finals so far.

TEAM BATTLE

Pinoy golfers start gold bid

GARCIA (right) congratulates Pagunsan after winning the men's individual golf competition.

PAIRINGS

Women: RP vs Singapore, Malaysia vs Vietnam, Indonesia vs Laos. Thailand is bye.

Men: RP vs Brunei, Malaysia vs Singapore, Indonesia vs Myanmar, Thailand (bye) vs winner of Vietnam-Laos.

THE PHILIPPINES, virtually assured of the men's golf bronze in team play, battles Brunei this morning at the start of the team matchplay in the 21st Southeast Asian Games in Kuala Lumpur.

The Filipinos, who had a much-needed breather yesterday, are heavily favored to defeat the Bruneians in the three-to-play format scheduled for 18. And, after the expected triumph, the RP boys face this afternoon the winner of the Malaysia-Singapore tussle for a slot in the finals.

"I believe the boys can also do it in the team event," said Rod Feliciano, president of the National Golf Association of the Philippines. "Look, their scores have been improving everyday. Barring any unforeseen event, we will win it. And with Juvic's spectacular victory only yesterday, I believe the boys are all fired up to go for the team gold."

Feliciano, who had to return home Wednesday due to a pressing business engagement, said he was delighted to learn that "the whole RP golf team had a Japanese dinner to celebrate Juvic's golden moment."

17 birdies

Juvic Pagunsan, who won the individual gold by a record 9 strokes and a record 9-under-par total on Thursday after firing a total of 17 birdies (another Games record), will spearhead the country's campaign anew in the company of Jay Bayron and Marvin Dumandan.

The RP ladies of captain Alice Andrada will also gun for the team gold, needing to beat Singapore this morning for the right to challenge Thailand this afternoon in a clash for the finals berth.

Andrada will field Carmelette Villaroman and Heidi Chua in the morning.

"I will decide whom to field in the afternoon because right now, I'm focused on the match against Singapore," said Andrada, who said she had recovered from the setback of the hard-luck Villaroman. Villaroman fell out of the medal column after leading the field going into the last round Thursday.

Men's captain Iggy Clavecilla said he would also decide whether or not he would field Boyet Saragoza in today's afternoon match against either Malaysia or Singapore.

A team captain has the option to replace any of the players fielded this morning in today's afternoon matches.

After today's 36-hole matchplay, the battle for the gold tomorrow is scheduled for 18 holes.

The Philippines is aiming to duplicate its two-gold sweep of men's play in Brunei in 1999 and to end the medal drought in women's play after Dorothy Delasin last won the women's gold in 1997 in Jakarta. *ASM*

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Marave tops 8th kart leg

CEBU CITY—Veteran Pepon Marave of Demvel's Enterprises spoiled the planned homecoming of local hero Jess Garcia of Kart 1, posting a memorable win in the eighth and penultimate leg of the Shell Super Karting Championships before a wildly cheering crowd at the Kart Zone Cebu Racing Circuit here Sunday.

Regarded as the most experienced karter in the field, Marave threw caution to the wind and silenced the huge crowd with a variety of moves en route to a smashing win in the centerpiece Formula Super A category.

The win—the fourth in eight races—boosted Marave's chances for the overall title in this prestigious series sponsored by Shell Helix, Shell Velocity, Shell Citibank Mastercard, WG&A Super Ferry, Match Box/Hot Wheels, Nokia, Coca-Cola, Demvel's, Bridgestone and Eastway Racing.

Last year's PSA "Karter of the Year" Philip Alvendia of Kart 1 finished a strong third behind Marave and Garcia.

Joining Marave in the winners' list were Lee Bumgarner, who topped the Formula 125 category; Allan Uy, who ruled the intercon; Glenn Yusingco, who dominated the Yamaha Kt. Heavy; Mandy Borja, who won the FSL Light; Dado Pena, who bagged the Jr. Kt.; Michelle Bumgarner, who annexed the cadet 85cc; and Guidecelli, who won the cadet 60cc.

TPG to back Davao Eagles

ADD The Professional Group to the growing roster of Metropolitan Basketball Association corporate backers.

TPG, a pre-need company specializing in education and personal care plans, has bought into the Davao Eagles and the TPG-Davao partnership will officially start in the resumption of the MBA Second Phase on Sept. 19.

"It's a done deal. Both parties have already agreed to the salient points ad only the final details need to be fine-tuned," said a source privy to the negotiations.

TPG president Francisco Colayco is representing his company in the final stages of the merger talks with Anthony del Rosario of the Davao Eagles.

Under the new set-up, Del Rosario and the other Eagles co-owners will reportedly stay as an integral part of the team and management.

Ramon Tuason, MBA director for business development, welcomed the entry of TPG, saying that corporations are now realizing the financial viability of the league.

The MBA, retaining its original concept of regionalism, has recognized the need for corporate sponsors, assuring them in turn of immense media mileage and goodwill returns.

This novel thrust has resulted into mergers such as the LBC-Batangas Blades, FedEx-Laguna Lakers, Andok's-San Juan Knights and Cebuana Lhuillier Gems.

Tuason added that some key cities are still open to corporate partnerships.

Among the reasons Tuason cited for the rising corporate interest are constant exposure on national and regional dailies, television coverage (National Broadcasting Network and ABS-CBN), AM and FM radio broadcasts, international exposure via The Filipino Channel and being online.

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Sir Vincent derby begins today in Mandaluyong

WTH the full backing of the United Cockers Association of the Philippines (Ucap) and other bigtime cockers, the "Sir Vincent 5-Stag Derby" fires off at the Mandaluyong Coliseum beginning at 5 p.m. today. Derby host is sportsman-businessman Vic Yu while sponsors are Sagupaan Super Feeds and Washout Shampoo.

Heading the list of participants is former Mayor Jessie Viceo (San Rafael Anniversary) who ruled the BJ Greenwood 7-Stag Derby Thursday night after posting 6.5 points.

Meanwhile, the "A Ucap/ PE San Pablo PBRJ 7-Stag Derby" rages this coming Tuesday and Thursday, Sept. 18 and 20. Derby hosts are Pol Estrellado and Boyboy Roa.

Only those stags wingbanded by Pagba, Migba, Ucap, GF-BAN and NGBA are accepted to join. Unlike other stag derbies, all stags fielded in Ucap stagfests are wingbanded when they were two to three months old. Wingbanding was done last February and March only.

For inquiries, contact 531-4003, 531-4005, 534-4110 and 535-2341.

Hackfight stakes juicy pot

BIG cash prizes and valuable appliances are in store for participants as Pasay City Cockpit, regarded as Metro Manila's cleanest cockfighting center, launches the "Hackfight Extravaganza" tomorrow.

According to pit managers Oscar Gonzales, Eric dela Rosa and Butchoy Olano, the derby will be held every Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

The first 20 winners will get a bonus of P1,000 while the 21st to 40th winners will get P500.

All hackfight participants will automatically qualify in the raffle draw where surprise valuable appliances and packages await the winners.

Pasay Cockpit will also present two 4-stag derbies on Sept. 21 (Jobo del Rosario, Romy Arciaga and Ferdie Eusebio) and Sept. 28 (Mauro Prieto).

RACING TIPS

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Race 2—1. Snake Dancer 2. Lucky El 3. Dancing Kiara 4. Rio Rossa
Race 3—1. Alexander 2. Peace Offering 3. Ultimate Prize 4. Queen Storm
Race 4—1. Love and Kisses 2. Yallah's Princess 3. Silver Dollar 4. Miss Sleween
Race 5—1. She's So Sure 2. Romantic Bay 3. Grand Dragon 4. Time for Miracles 5. Solitaire
Race 6—1. Umaatikabo 2. Men of Honor 3. Speed Empire 4. Isabel's Gossip
Race 7—1. Exchange Deal 2. American Beauty 3. Silver Lining 4. Golden Indy
Race 8—1. I Swear 2. Classic Wine 3. Dragon Doding 4. Sure to Glow
Race 9—1. Boss Lino 2. Imus Emperor 3. Vice on Ice 4. Queen of D Jungle 5. Maniaman
Race 10—1. Southern Skies 2. Ceasar's Inn 3. Stock Rising 4. Sunny View/Queen Scholar
Race 11—1. Hazmoore 2. Bull Rider 3. Staunch Ally 4. Bidang Bida 5. Hazme Lady 6. Bullhorn
Race 12—1. Courage 2. Bold Freddy 3. Kingair 4. Wendy's Pride
Race 13—1. Ginger Baker 2. Living Legend 3. Lady Witty 4. Perfect Gift 5. Let Me Pass 6. Love Triangle/Romario

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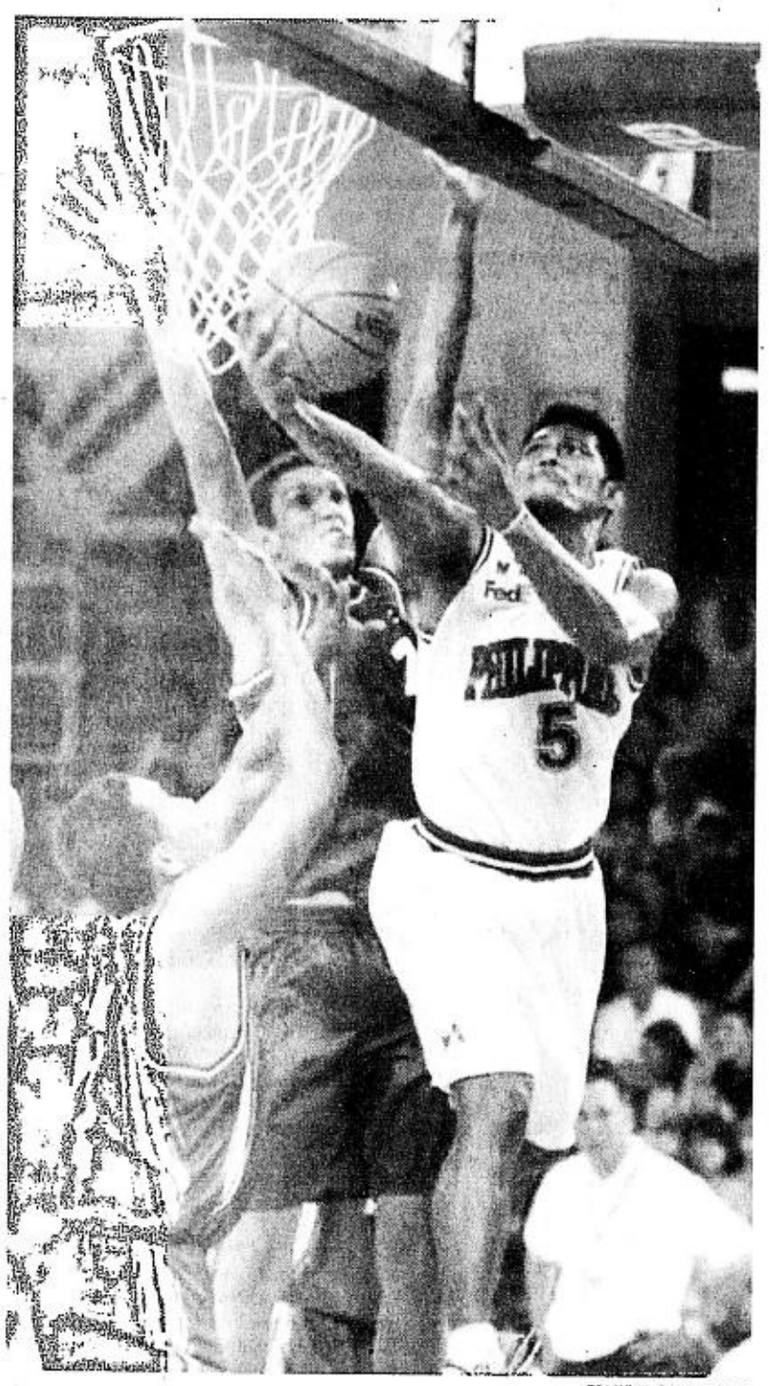

ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

RUBEN De La Rosa of the Philippines makes an undergoal against two Thai defenders during their SEAG basketball match. The Nationals won, 94-65, to qualify for the finals against Malaysia.

SEAG BASKETBALL

RP eyes 4th straight win

GAMES TODAY
2 p.m.—Thailand vs RP (W)
4 p.m.—Vietnam vs Thailand (M)
6 p.m.—Vietnam vs Malaysia (W)
8 p.m.—RP vs Singapore (M)

BY DENNIS U. EROA

KUALA LUMPUR—A stroll in the park is in store as the Philippines eyes its fourth straight win against Singapore today in the 21st SEA Games men's basketball tournament at the Malaysia Basketball Association Gym here.

Due to the short, one round-robin format, the Filipino dribblers have already assured themselves of the gold medal even if they lose their last two outings—against Singapore and Malaysia on Sunday. The Philippines ripped Thailand, 94-65, last Thursday night for its third consecutive victory.

Indonesia, opening day victim of the Philippines, dealt Malaysia a 78-74 whipping in yesterday's action.

Ties will be resolved by the quotient system which should not pose a problem for the Filipino dribblers since they are beating their rivals by an average margin of 30 points.

But coach Boysie Zamar continued to downplay the Filipinos' chances. He talked about how biased officiating can affect the Philippines' match against Malaysia.

"We cannot afford to fight in a close game. We have to score a blowout," said Zamar.

He also made special mention of the consistent shows of SEA Games first-timer Chito Victolero, who plays point guard for MBA champion San Juan.

Others playing well are Ruben de la Rosa, Eddie Laure, Romel Adducul, Cris Calaguio and Jomar Tierra. Vince Hizon was hardly a factor with a sprained right ankle he suffered against Vietnam.

The Philippines dominated men's basketball since the 1977 staging which was also held here. But it was also in this fascinating capital that the country's reign ended when it lost the basketball gold in 1989, before bouncing back by topping the 1991 competitions in Manila.

While the Filipinos are routing the opposition, the Filipina dribblers (1-1) face the awesome task of downing Thailand in order to have a chance for the gold.

Tuason frowns on revamp story

BY DENNIS U. EROA

KUALA LUMPUR—Carlos Tuason, chair of the Philippine Sports Commission, yesterday said the story (not in the INQUIRER) regarding President Arroyo's decision to ax him and other PSC officials after the ongoing SEA Games is demoralizing and frustrating.

"The story is not encouraging at all. It somewhat demoralizes the Philippine delegation, especially the athletes who have yet to compete. We serve at the mercy of the President but as far as we are concerned, the President has not said anything that would cause demoralization to our contingent," Tuason said.

The PSC chair arrived in this Malaysian capital Thursday night after cheering Filipino athletes in Penang.

While saying that this is not the time to talk politics, Tuason said the intent of the story is obvious. "The sources are not mentioned. Every athlete is pouring his best and yet there are quarters who do not seem to be concerned at all. We can talk politics the moment we return in Manila."

Tuason said the Philippines is doing fine but he fears that Vietnam may overtake it in the overall tally if the latter does good in pencak silat.

ELMA Muros-Posadas clears the bar during the high jump event in heptathlon yesterday. She lost her long jump title last Wednesday.
ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

Shell pounds Alaska, 99-81

GAMES TOMORROW (Cuneta Astrodome)
4:05p.m.—Purefoods vs Talk N Text
6:10p.m.—Ginebra vs San Miguel

BY JUNE NAVARRO

SHELL atoned for a disastrous opener with a lopsided 99-81 triumph over Alaska Milk last night in the PBA Governors Cup at the Philsports Arena.

Askia Jones headed a blistering third-quarter uprising, scoring 19 of his game-high 47 points in that span, as the Zoommasters went on to post their first victory in two starts.

But unlike Shell's collapse against the Talk N Text Phone Pals last week, Jones wasn't alone in dealing the Aces their second straight setback.

This time, Mark Telan amply filled the void needed by the Zoommasters to complement Jones' prolific performance as the 6-foot-6 slotman shone against the Aces.

Telan, last year's Most Improved Player, had 18 points, apart from six rebounds and three blocks, to backstop Jones' at the offensive end.

Tanduay bucked the absence of injured key players Maurice Bell, Eric Menk, Jeffrey Cariaso and Jason Webb to repulse Swift, 96-93, in the second game. The Rhummasters broke into the win column at 1-1, while dealing the Panthers their second consecutive defeat.

Scores:
SHELL 99 — Jones 47, Telan 18, Hrabak 10, Singson 10, Marzan 7, Wainwright 4, Jackson 2, Esplana 1, Lim 0, Paras 0, Dela Cruz 0.
ALASKA 81 – Chambers 24, Peek 18, Duremdes 15, Gahol 9, Allado 6, Evans 3, Ordonio 2, Santos 2, Arigo 2, Wallkvist 0.
Quarters: 21-16, 44-38, 78-56, 99-81.

Golf demo tour blasts off

THE 1st Philippine golf demo tour kicked off yesterday at the Forest Hills Golf and Country Club in Antipolo.

Held simultaneously with the Chairman's Cup tournament and in cooperation with Prestige Cars Makati and Canon, the demo will allow participants to discover why the TaylorMade Adidas 300 Series golf club is currently the hottest golf commodity in the PGA Tour.

TaylorMade Golf has led the golf industry's technological evolution since it started in 1979. In 1998, the company joined with Adidas Golf.

The TaylorMade 300 Series Golf tour will also hit Aguinaldo (Sept. 22-23), Canlubang (Sept. 29-30), Villamor (Oct. 4-5), Mikaza Driving Range (Oct. 13-14), The Orchard (Oct. 20-21), The Riviera (Oct. 27-28), Wack Wack (Nov. 3-4), Royal Maru (Nov. 10-11), Kagitingan Driving Range (Nov. 17-18), Sherwood (Nov. 24-25), Power Golf Driving Range (Dec. 1-2) and South Point Driving Range (Dec. 8-9).

The participating golf shops are: Pro-Golf-Shangrila (Sept. 17-22), Golf Depot-Makati (Sept. 24-29), PAC Sports-Makati (Oct. 1-6), Nevada Bob's-Alabang (Oct. 8-13), Pro Gear-Makati (Oct. 15-20), Pro Golf-Makati (Oct. 22-27), Golf Depot-San Juan (Oct. 29-Nov. 3), PAC Sports-Wack Wack (Nov. 5-10), Nevada Bob's Makati (Nov. 12-17), Pro Golf-Alabang (Nov. 19-24), Golf Depot-Alabang (Nov. 26-Dec. 1) and PAC Sports-Festival Malla (Dec. 3-9).

RP SKED TODAY

SEPT. 15

DIVING: 9 a.m.—Men's 3m springboard, prelim/final (Domenios, Asok)

ARCHERY: 8:30 a.m.—Ladies' team event, elim round/final, 1:30 p.m.—Men's team event, elim round/final

ATHLETICS: 4 p.m.—Heptathlon: long jump, javelin throw, 800m run (Molina, Posadas), men's triple jump, final (Delicano, Dagumil), 5,000m, men final (Buenavista, Mama); javelin throw, men, final (Gallenero), 4x400m relay, final (Candelario, Jimar, Tanuan, Jr. Marfil/ Manata)

BASKETBALL—8 p.m.—RP vs Singapore (Men)

SNOOKER & BILLIARDS—10 a.m.—15-ball pool singles, race to 5 (Reyes vs Hoang, Vietnam; Kiamco vs Duong TC, Vietnam), prelim, semis, final

TENPIN BOWLING: 9 a.m.—Masters, women, 2nd block of 7 games and position round; Masters, men 2nd block of 7 games and position round

CYCLING (Mountain Bike): 9 a.m.—Women cross country (Bitbit); men cross country (Casaljay, Quinones)

GOLF: 8 a.m.—Team event, round 1/semi

GYMNASTICS: 3 p.m.—Rythmic: rope, hoop, ball, clubs (Basco)

JUDO: 5 p.m.—Lightweight, men and women, half lightweight (men)

LAWN BOWLS: 8:30 a.m.—Men's singles, Brunei vs RP; women's singles, Brunei vs RP; women's pairs, RP vs Thailand

2:30 p.m.—Men's singles, RP vs Thailand; women's singles, RP vs Thailand.

SEPAK TAKRAW: 10 a.m.—Semis Note: RP's participation depends on results in previous rounds

SAILING: 11 a.m.—Int'l 420 (Tayong, Francisco); Int'l 470 (Balladares, Chavez), Mistral 1 Lightweight (Paz); Mistral 1 Heavyweight (Juarez)

TENNIS: 9 a.m.—Finals, men and ladies' individual event Note: RP athletes' participation depends on results of earlier rounds

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL: 6 p.m.—Semifinals Note: RP team's opponent depends on results of game vs Malaysia

WATER POLO: 9 a.m.—RP vs Vietnam

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MEDAL TALLY

As of 9 p.m., Sept 14

	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
Malaysia	69	50	67	186
Thailand	65	55	64	184
Indonesia	46	45	57	148
Philippines	22	44	51	117
Vietnam	22	26	54	102
Singapore	14	19	28	61
Myanmar	14	12	40	66
Laos	1	1	7	9
Cambodia	1	0	4	5
Brunei	0	0	5	5

SPORTS ON TV

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MOTOR SPORTS: 2001 F1 Qualifying - Italian Grand Prix at 7 p.m. on Star Sports

GOLF: SBC Senior Open, Second Round at 1 p.m. (r) on Star Sports

Golf Classics - Arnold Palmer Signing Off at 5:30 p.m. on ESPN

Global Golf Spotlights - Sergio Garcia at 8:30 p.m. on Star Sports

Asian PGA Tour/ Davidoff Tour - Mercuries Masters at 9 p.m. on Star Sports

BASKETBALL: Asian Basketball Show at 11:30 a.m. on Star Sports

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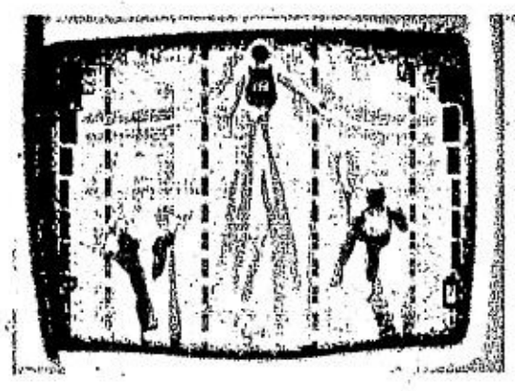

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SPORTS

AL S. MENDOZA, Editor ■ EDWIN M. VILLANUEVA, Assistant Editor

■ Pinoy 5 vs Singapore A17

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Judo bet saves day for RP

BY DENNIS U. EROA

KUALA LUMPUR 2001

KUALA LUMPUR—— The Philippines crashed back to earth a day after winning seven golds, putting anew in jeopardy its bid to finish fourth overall in the 21st Southeast Asian Games here yesterday.

With two days left before the curtains fall in this biennial Games, Filipino athletes were shell-shocked as they won just a single gold courtesy of judoka John Baylon yesterday.

Baylon, who kept his half-middleweight title, increased the Philippine gold-medal haul to 23 as it barely managed to hold on fourth with 47 silvers and 54 bronzes. Vietnam, thanks to the victory of Pham Dinh Khanh Doan in the women's 1,500, has 22 golds, 26 silvers and 44 bronzes an is in a position to overtake the Philippines.

Using his experience to the hilt, Baylon beat Thailand's Surasak Riengthong in the final at the PISA Stadium in Penang.

Athletics failed to add to its three-gold medal collection as John Lozada lost steam in the final 50 meters to surrender the 1,500m gold to Malaysian A. Munusamy, while Sean Guevarra consoled himself with the silver in the high jump. Lozada clocked 3:51.44 against the 3:50. 53 of the Malaysian winner, while Guevarra leapt to 2.18m, 0.5m less than the effort of four-time winner Loo Kum Zee of Malaysia. Arneil Ferrera settled for the bronze in hammer throw.

Durable Elma Muros-Posadas, who lost her long jump title to Vietnamese Phan Thi Thu lan last Wednesday, provided relief as she led the heptathlon after four events. Muros-Posadas topped the shot put and 200m hurdles, while finishing second in the 100m hurdles and high jump events. Elma won the heptathlon gold in the 1997 Jakarta SEA Games but settled for the silver in Brunei.

The other silver medal winners were: Sydney Olympian Sheila Mae Perez in the women's three-meter springboard final, and Cecilia Yap in the women's all events.

Barren Friday meant that the Philippines must surpass expectations in track and field, pencak silat and judo to turn back Vietnam's challenge

Thus far, pencak silat has a silver courtesy of Abdul Karim Abad in the *tunggal putera* event.

Malaysia, boosted by wins in athletics and diving, piled up 72 golds, 51 silvers and 55 bronze medals. Thailand has a 64-55-53 tally.

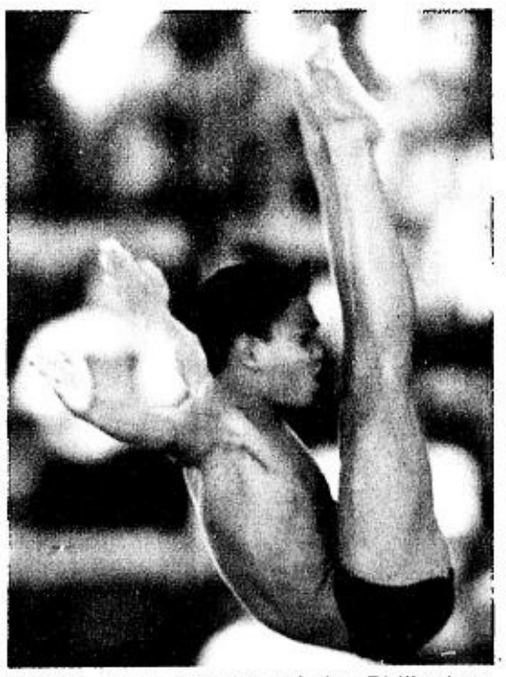
In boxing, featherweight Ramil Zambales became the second Filipino finalist after Sydney Olympian Arlan Lerio as he won by walkover against Tanovanh Nilodedone of Laos.

Two-time Olympian and Brunei gold medalist Romeo Brin proved no match to Pongsak Hrianthuanthong of Thailand, 21-8, to settle for the bronze in the welterweight division, while first timer Violito Payla also failed to halt Thailand's juggernaut as he bowed to Somjit Jongjohor,7-3, in the flyweight class.

The Thais reaffirmed their supremacy by sending all of their 11 boxers to the finals, while Malaysia had seven.

Tennisters Johnny Arcilla and Joseph Victorino also bade goodbye to their gold-medal aspirations as they lost in the quarterfinals.

The gold remained elusive for Efren 'Bata' Reyes. Reyes, Marlon Manalo and Rey Grandea as they lost to Thailand, 3-0, in the English billiards team semifinals, 3-0.



REXEL Ryan Fabriga of the Philippines performs in the men's 10m platform diving semifinal round. AP

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■ Marilao wants Metro garbage A24
■ On Target: Moros might hide Bin Laden A22

Muslims 'ready to kill' to stop indiscriminate arrests

BY CHRISTIAN V. ESGUERRA, PHILIP C. TUBEZA AND JEROME ANING

"WE ARE ready to kill and shed blood!"

Yasin Labao, head of the Caloocan Jammah Al Islamia organization, yesterday warned the government against making indiscriminate arrests in the crackdown on suspected terrorists following Tuesday's attacks on New York and Washington DC.

Labao, 44, yesterday led hundreds of Muslims in a protest in Caloocan City to denounce the threat of a government crackdown "to prevent possible abuses by police."

"We are a peace-loving people," Labao told the INQUIRER. "But once provoked, we wouldn't hesitate to kill."

Labao and some 1,000 Muslim families living near 10th Avenue in Caloocan criticized the government for "easily pinning the

MUSLIMS/A24

'We're a peace-loving people but once provoked...'

ERIK ARAZAS

PRAYING for peace are Muslims in their Quiapo mosque.

Cherry Hills developer nabbed

BY ALCUIN PAPA AND AGNES DONATO

MORE than two years after the Aug. 3, 1999 landslide that killed 58 people and destroyed more than 100 houses at the Cherry Hills subdivision in Antipolo City, the Japanese general manager of the firm that developed the housing project was arrested.

Police yesterday arrested Hiroshi Ogawa, 40, the Japanese GM of Philjas Corp.

Ogawa was accused of violating Presidential Decree No. 957, the subdivision and condominium buyers' protective decree.

The houses in Cherry Hills were allegedly constructed with substandard materials.

Ogawa was also charged with incomplete development resulting in homicide, frustrated homicide and damage to property.

Police arrested Ogawa about 6 a.m. in his rented condominium unit on P. Burgos Street in Bel-Air Village, Makati City on the strength of a warrant of arrest issued by Judge Felix Caballes of the Antipolo City Regional Trial Court Branch 71 and Judge Francisco Querebin of Branch 74.

Members of the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group arrested Ogawa following a stakeout of his house, according to CIDG Chief Supt. Nestorio Gualberto. He said the warrant for Ogawa's arrest could not be served immediately since Ogawa had not been home since it was issued.

But to Erwin Daga, lawyer of the Cherry Hills victims, Ogawa's arrest was not yet something to be happy about.

Dismissing Ogawa's apprehension as "a regular process in our legal procedure...made when criminal charges are filed against a person," Daga said the Japanese could easily post bail and gain his temporary freedom.

CHERRY/A22

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THE DAILY GOSPEL

Saturday, September 15, 2001
Our Lady of Sorrows

1st Reading: *1 Tim 1:15-17*
Gospel: *Jn 19:25-27*

Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister Mary, who was the wife of Cleophas, and Mary of Magdala. When Jesus saw the Mother, and the disciple, he said to the Mother, "Woman, this is your son." Then he said to the disciple, "There is your mother." And from that moment the disciple took her to his own home.

Commentary:

In John, the mother of Jesus appears only twice, at his first miracle at Cana, and here at the foot of the cross. She is never named, like the beloved disciple. Though nameless, we presuppose it is Mary agonizing at the sight of his dying son. In this last moment, Jesus speaks, "Woman, behold your son." To the beloved disciple, "Behold, your mother." With these words, Mary becomes also the mother of John. This solemn scene is symbolic of the church becoming a mother to the disciples close to Jesus' heart. The dying Jesus gives his mother as his last gift to us as he breathes his last. The motherhood of Mary is all we need when we lose a friend.

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SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

REMEDIAL LAW (EVIDENCE)—Circumstantial evidence—There is sufficient circumstantial evidence to warrant the conclusion that accused-appellant committed crime. To begin with, circumstantial evidence is sufficient to prove the elements of the crime if the following requisites are present: (1) there is more than one circumstance; (2) the facts from which the inferences are derived are proven, and (3) the combination of all the circumstances is such as to produce a conviction beyond a reasonable doubt. It has been held that the circumstances or a combination thereof should point to overt acts of the accused, which would then lead to only one conclusion, that is, that the accused is guilty of the crime charged. These should be inconsistent with the theory that the accused is innocent. In this case, the circumstances taken together, sufficiently establish the guilt of accused-appellant beyond reasonable doubt. [Citations omitted.] [Justice Mendoza, Second Division, People v. Olivo, Jr., G.R. No. 130335, January 18, 2001]

DIGEST BY R.B. VERA

Cherry Hills developer nabbed

(From page A21)

The charge of incomplete development resulting in homicide filed against Ogawa carries a bail of P20,000 for every victim.

Ogawa's lawyer Manuel Camacho has vowed to bail out his client immediately.

Camacho said he would file a motion to dismiss the charges against Ogawa on grounds that the Antipolo prosecutor's office had already dismissed the same charges against Philjas in 1999 for lack of basis.

But to Jun Butial, president of the landslide survivors' organization, Ogawa's arrest meant that there was finally progress in their case.

"I'm glad," Butial said. "I and my colleagues will be watching what will happen in the next few days.

"We have been disappointed in the past. We are expecting so much more from our justice system."

Daga, however, stressed that he hopes the Philjas camp would not employ delaying tactics so that the case would finally go to trial.

He said his clients have yet to receive any compensation from either the subdivision developer or the government since they lost their homes and some of the loved ones in the tragedy.

Ogawa's arrest came two days after President Gloria President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo left for an official visit to Japan where she would meet with Emperor Akihito and Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi.

Moros might hide Bin Laden

ON TARGET

Ramon Tulfo

THE WORLD is awaiting America's response to the monstrous acts of terrorism by the infamous Osama bin Laden who is safely hidden away in his mountain hideout deep inside Afghanistan.

Let's hope America's response will be an appropriate one—tempering the anguish and anger of their almost unbearable pain.

The tears shed by millions of Americans, as well as those of other nationalities, will soon be converted into bullets, missiles and bombs.

***

Those barbarians in Palestine and Iraq who danced like monkeys to rejoice over the attacks at the World Trade Center in New York and the Pentagon in Washington D.C. only heightened the sympathy of the world with the Americans over their plight.

The Americans may have the last laugh.

***

If the United States decides to use tactical nuclear weapons to flush out the monster Bin Laden and his Islamic fundamentalist cowards, it should be sure that only those who have had a hand in the atrocities are singled out.

Innocent civilian lives, even if they're Muslim, should be spared.

Otherwise, the US would be stooping to the level of those barbarians.

***

Most Arab nations have joined the rest of the world in denouncing the barbaric acts of terrorism perpetrated by some of their citizens.

Their show of sympathy is understandable; they fear retaliation. US President George Bush said his government would not distinguish between the terrorists and nations protecting them.

You don't mess with Uncle Sam and get away with it.

***

Bin Laden must be a pariah now among his fellow Arabs. The Taliban leaders in Afghanistan have probably told him to leave the country because they fear retaliation.

It's not a remote possibility that Bin Laden might seek refuge in Mindanao. He has a big following among the Moros in the country's second biggest island.

Bin Laden has a wife in Sulu. He is known to have visited Muslim communities in the South.

***

Southern Philippines would be a good place for Omar Bin Laden to hide right now. He would be surrounded by adoring lackeys from the Abu Sayyaf and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF).

He would be given sanctuary in MILF camps without anyone knowing.

The Saudi billionaire would be never be arrested by the military some of whom are perceived to be businessmen in uniform taking protection money from the Abu Sayyaf.

***

When I watch CNN these days, I do so in the privacy of my bedroom. I have to be careful that no one sees the tears in my eyes.

I am touched by the pain and suffering of the relatives of those who were lost. Some of them go around parading pictures of their loved ones in front of TV cameras, hoping someone will see a photo of one they might know to be a survivor!

The stupidity of those crazy Arabs who think Allah will bring them to heaven because they killed the infidels!

In some people, the word Muslim has become synonymous with terrorism.

***

You should give it to the Americans: they know how to face tragedy with dignity.

No one from among those with photos is pushing anyone else out of the way. They allow everyone to carry out his sad search for a loved and lost one with equal preference.

And the cameramen certainly do their best to cooperate.

Kung sa Pilipinas pa yun, nagtutulak-tulakan na !

***

What impresses me most is how the Americans are one in their resolve to fight. Almost to the last man, they have united behind President Bush who, until last week, was one of that country's most unpopular presidents.

The US Senate, the House, and the US military are all acting as one.

How I wish we had those qualities in this country !

***

It is so sad to learn that in the hostage negotiations last year, our chief negotiator on the hostage crisis apparently took a big cut. He probably shared it with the Erap, the president whose face is as thick as iron.

And it has even been more heart-wrenching to discover in the hearings of the House and the Senate that the reason why the terrorist Abu Sayyaf were getting away with their savagery is that they have been bribing the military.

***

Some Filipino nationalists should wake up. When they hate the Americans so much, it is probably because when they watch the Americans they can't believe these people are so different from the rest of the world in their unity, in their compassion, in their dedication, and in their sense of justice.

Besides, these so-called nationalists are the first to line up at the US Embassy to get visas for the United States.

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Aug. 20- Sep. 30, 2001	Sep. 30, 2001	Oct. 12, 2001, Friday, 3pm
Oct. 1 -31, 2001	Oct. 31, 2001	Nov. 9, 2001, Friday, 3pm
Nov. 1 -30, 2001	Nov. 30, 2001	Dec. 14, 2001, Friday, 3pm
Dec. 1 -31, 2001	Dec. 31, 2001	Jan. 11, 2002, Friday, 3pm
Jan. 1 -31, 2002	Jan. 31, 2002	Feb. 15, 2002, Friday, 3pm
Feb. 1 -19, 2002	Feb. 19, 2002	Mar. 1, 2002, Friday, 3pm

7. Winners can win more than once in the monthly raffle draw. However, in the grand raffle draw, winner can only win once. Should a participant win more than once, he gets the prize with the bigger value.
8. Winners will be notified through registered mail. Winners will be requested to present registered mail, raffle stub and a valid identification card when claiming the prize.
9. Redemption of prizes for the monthly and a grand raffle winners shall be within 60 days from notification at the WHV office at 3/F JMT Corporate Cond ADB Ave. Ortigas Center Pasig City. Provincial winners can claim prizes at the nearest Executive Optical/Astrovision outlets specified in the registered notice. Prizes not claimed after this date will be forfeited in favor of the sponsor, with prior approval from DTI.
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14. In case of dispute, the decision of Warner Home Video, with the concurrence of DTI shall be considered final.

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Mehan a historical site, insists NHI

BY JEROME ANING

THE NATIONAL Historical Institute yesterday insisted that the Mehan Garden, including the site of the controversial P48.5-million Park N Ride project, is a "long established historical site," contradicting the Manila city government's claims.

City Hall continues to defy the order of the Department of the Environment and Natural Resources to stop the construction of a two-story parking facility at the back of the Metropolitan Theater.

The DENR, citing NHI documents, has ruled that the site is within the Mehan, which is a historical site, and could not be built over.

City Hall contends otherwise. It called the DENR order baseless and challenged the department to take the matter to court.

Manila Mayor Lito Atienza earlier said the city government does not have any documentation showing that Mehan is a historical site.

"We cannot honor the order, much less follow it," Atienza said in his weekly news conference at City Hall yesterday. "If you were given a wrong order, you are not bound to follow it."

He said Environment Secretary Heherson Alvarez "could have been misinformed about the issue by some individuals who have vested interests." He said the NHI, not the DENR, should be leading the opposition to the project.

"I'm wondering why (Secretary Heherson) Alvarez is intervening in this," the mayor said, adding jestingly: "Maybe he wants to become mayor of Manila, but he should just wait for the next election so we could face each other."

The NHI, through its lawyer Wilfredo Peñaflor, said Mehan's status as a historical site "is confirmed by duly authenticated historical records."

The institute cited the minutes of the meeting on Oct. 24, 1934 of the NHI's predecessor, the Philippine Historical Research and Markets Committee, which showed that then Governor-General Frank Murphy, upon the committee's request, approved the installation of a historical marker for the Mehan 11 days earlier.

The PHRMC was then composed of Walter Robb, the chair, with Edward Hyde, E.B. Rodriguez, Conrado Benitez, Henry Otley Beyer, Fr. Miguel Selga and Jaime de Veyra as members.

Aside from the Mehan, other sites recognized as historical by the committee were the Nuestra Señora de Guia Church in Ermita, Santo Domingo Church, the Ayuntamiento, the Intendencia and the Philippine Mint.

The marker disclosed that the garden, the first botanical and zoological park in Manila, was established in 1858 by Gov. Gen. Fernando Norzagaray at the request of the city government.

The marker has been lost, presumably during World War II, but conservationists who want to preserve the Mehan as a park said its historical significance remains.

The park was called Jardin Botanico until it was renamed in 1913 after John Mehan, the American colonial sanitation chief and parks superintendent.

Peñaflor disputed the claim of Manila city legal officer Melchor Monsod that the Mehan was considered historical "on the mere opinion of the NHI without following the process mandated by law."

The NHI stressed that the Mehan was identified and designated as a historical site by the appropriate government agency in 1934, long before the creation of the NHI in 1972.

As such, Peñaflor said, the procedures laid down for the declaration of historical sites under Republic Act No. 4846, which was enacted only in 196, could not have applied to the Mehan.

The lawyer cited Alvarez's Sept. 7 ruling in which the secretary said the Mehan was not among the sites declared as historical under Presidential Decree No. 260 because it was already a historical site long before the decree's promulgation in 1973.

"It is basic that a stature applies progressively," Alvarez said. "To declare (Mehan historical again) would be a redundancy."

The NHI also clarified that the DENR is "well within its powers and authority" in issuing a cease-and-desist order against Park N Ride Inc. pursuant to PD. 1586 or the Environmental Impact Assessment Law, and Executive Order 192 or the Reorganization Act of the DENR.

Peñaflor said the case against Park N Ride involves its alleged violation of the conditions of the environment compliance certificate issued by the DENR.

Worker slain over fighting cock

A MAN on Thursday night killed his drinking buddy for allegedly stealing his fighting cock in Malabon City, police said.

Randy Baldisimo, 27, stabbed construction worker Fernando Leono, 46, dead while they were drinking on Salmon Street around 9 p.m., said case investigator PO2 Christopher Rodriguez.

Leono suffered five stab wounds and died while he was being brought to the Pagamutang Bayan ng Malabon.

During the drinking session, Baldisimo confronted Leono over the former's missing fighting cock that was reportedly last seen near Leono's house in Barangay Longos last week, the investigator said.

When Leono denied the accusation and berated Baldisimo, the latter, already very drunk, took a fan knife and stabbed him.

The suspect is still at large.

Christian V. Esguerra

Music, fashion from Canada

CANADIAN diversity and multiculturalism are showcased in a cultural show during "Franchise Asia 2001" today at 1 p.m. at the World Trade Center along Roxas Boulevard in Pasay City. Admission is free.

"From Sea to Sea" is a joint project of the Canadian Embassy and the Philippine International School of Fashion (PISF). The presentation will feature performances by Filipino-Canadian artists and a mini fashion show of shirts designed by PISF students.

The following Filipino-Canadian artists from Ontario will be performing: Ariel Rivera of "ASAP," Michelle Baile of the ABS-CBN Talent Center, and Mutya ng Pilipinas-Canada Emiline Cruz.

The shirts to be showcased will represent all the provinces and territories of Canada. Journey across Canada from the Pacific to the Atlantic through the fashion show. Experience the diversity of the Canadian cultural mosaic and the vastness of its land.

The Fashion School is a joint venture of the La Salle College Group of Canada and St. Scholastica's College in Manila with the assistance of the Canadian International Development Agency's Private Enterprise Accelerated Resource Linkages Project.

The school trains inspired groups of young people using Canadian and international technology in fashion design, production and management. Once graduated, they will assist the national apparel industry in realizing its full potential with top quality designs, efficient manufacturing and strong marketing concepts, to capture the added value of local production.

For details, you may contact Christopher Daniel, public affairs officer of the Canadian Embassy at telephone number 867-0026; email: christopher.daniel@dfait-maeci.gc.ca

Filipino certified LS trainer

A FILIPINO educator is now part of an elite group of academicians and trainers representing the International Learning Styles Network (ILSN).

Dr. Rita Dunn, director of the Network based at St. John University in New York, announced the certification of Henry S. Tenedero, president of the Center for Learning Styles Philippines (CLTS), as a learning styles trainer.

Tenedero joins the rank of only 51 certified learning styles trainers internationally to date. As a certified LS trainer, he bears the right to provide staff development training programs using the Dunn and Dunn learning styles model.

The model, which is internationally acclaimed in the field of educational research, is used by more than 100 universities in the US and other countries. It is premised on the belief that every child has the ability to learn; that instructional environments, resources and approaches should respond to the diverse learning style strengths of the students.

It has been noted that when educators expand their instructional methods and techniques according to the individual learning styles of the students, there is a marked increase in performance and achievement and a decrease in disciplinary problems.

CLTS Phils., an affiliate of the network, is at the forefront of espousing the use of learning styles and multiple intelligences in schools. It has organized numerous seminar workshops for teachers, administrators, parents and students nationwide.

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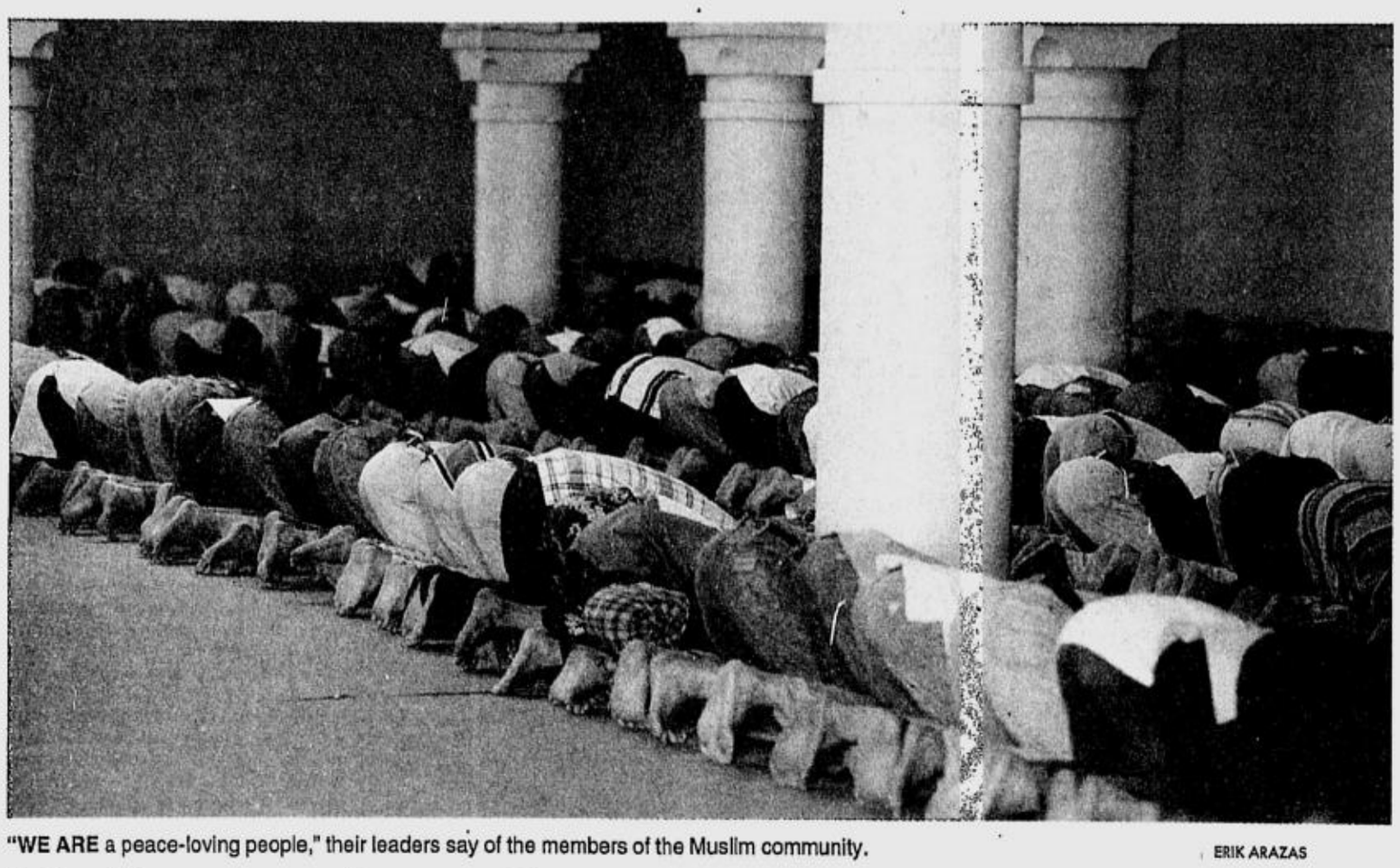

"WE ARE a peace-loving people," their leaders say of the members of the Muslim community. ERIK ARAZAS

Marilao wants Metro garbage

BY CARMELA REYES,
PDI Central Luzon Desk

MARILAO, Bulacan—Residents of this town welcome garbage from Metro Manila to be dumped in a 10-hectare private lot in Barangay Sta. Rosa II here.

The local government is paying the lot owners, Teodoro Juan and Mario Benedicto, to accommodate non-biodegradable wastes from this town.

Reports, however, showed that because residents found nothing of value from these segregated wastes, they agreed with the lot owners' idea to allow Metro Manila contractors to dump garbage in the Sta. Rosa II dumpsite.

Most of the scavengers used to be squatters who moved to Barangay Sta Rosa II after it was converted into a dumpsite six years ago.

Marina Santos and her neighbors near the dumpsite look for pieces of plastic, metal, old valuables and other recyclable materials from the tons of garbage dumped here.

Santos said they earn P350 from garbage from this town but earn from P500 to P900 from Metro Manila garbage because the latter is not segregated.

"If we only depend on Marilao garbage, we would earn only a little because it is mostly plastic materials," she said.

Joey Foronda of the Marilao Solid Waste Management Project said the local government has been implementing the waste segregation scheme where garbage collectors earn extra income by selling recyclable materials to junk shops.

He said biodegradable waste is brought to Barangay Lambakin here.

Chief Insp. George Turcuator, Marilao police chief, said residents are making the Sta. Rosa II dumpsite available to Metro Manila garbage contractors because of what they could earn from picking trash from Metro Manila.

"Scavengers wait for truckloads of trash at the Marilao tollgate of Northern Luzon Expressway," Turcuator said. "They even tell truck drivers not to go to the dumpsite if there are policemen around."

Last month, local police intercepted 12 truckloads of garbage from Malabon, Navotas, Valenzuela, Caloocan and Makati cities on Turcuator's order.

The trucks were turned over to the provincial environment office. The drivers claimed their contractors paid Juan and Benedicto P600 for every truckload of garbage dumped in Sta. Rosa II.

Muslims 'ready to kill' to stop ...

(From page A21)

blame" on Muslims every time a terrorist attack is carried out.

The government should distinguish between ordinary Muslims and those involved in criminal activities, said Mohammad Yacob, 29, an imam in the community.

Labao admitted he and his neighbors "rejoiced" when they learned of the terrorist attacks on the US, saying the Americans supposedly deserved them for their alleged crimes against Muslims.

"If Muslim terrorists are indeed behind the attacks, we can't blame them," Labao said. "The Americans started the war."

With the global hunt on for suspected terrorists, Labao feared local authorities would indiscriminately arrest Muslims.

"In the Philippines, Muslims are the usual suspects," Labao said. "We are condemned simply because authorities need fall guys."

But the Metro Manila police chief, Deputy Director General Edgar C. Galvante, tried to allay their fears that the authorities would again target them, as in previous years.

"We are very discerning here," the Metro Manila police chief said. "We are not labeling these terrorists as Muslims but as bad persons. They might even have Christian accomplices."

Galvante urged the Muslim leaders in the metropolis to set up their own security measures and report suspicious-looking persons in their communities.

"They should report these persons so that innocent civilians would not be dragged into this mess," he said.

Galvante explained that Metro Manila is now on alert for possible attacks from the Abu Sayyaf.

"We are on heightened alert, which is equivalent to the red alert in the military," he said. "We have ordered increased security in these critical areas to prevent attacks, like the LRT bombings last year."

But he said reports that international terrorist Osama Bin Laden has terrorist cells in Metro Manila are "raw information" which still has to be verified.

Galvante said "there are threats" that the Abu Sayyaf "would create trouble here."

But he quickly added that these threats were made long before the terrorist attacks on the United States on Tuesday. All the same, government installations and commercial areas in the capital have been secured, Galvante said.

Investigators are trying to verify reports that four suspected terrorists linked with Bin Laden are in the country, he said.

"That's possible because we were able to trace (their route, which showed) that they indeed were here," he said. "But we are still verifying the information that there are still some of them around."

He cited unverified reports that the terrorist cells might be hiding in Mindanao. Other reports claimed Bin Laden's wife is a cousin of Abu Sayyaf leader Abu Sabaya.

About 50 militant activists trooped to the US Embassy in Ermita, Manila yesterday morning to denounce the terrorist attacks in New York City and Washington DC and to condole with the victims.

But the Sanlakas-led group, along with members of the Bukluran ng Manggagawang Pilipino and the Sosyalistang Partido ng Paggawa, said they "utterly condemn" the US government's announced plan to launch retaliatory attacks against suspected terrorist groups and countries hosting them.

"We are indignant (over the terrorist attacks) where a large number of ordinary American workers were killed," Sanlakas spokesperson Wilson Fortaleza said. "Terrorism is inutile as a means to advance the struggle for social change."

The US Embassy compound on Roxas Boulevard was cordoned off by Western Police District anti-riot and special weapons and tactics personnel, who herded the demonstrators to Plaza Ferguson across the street.

During the rally, police accosted an unidentified Indian photojournalist for allegedly taking shots of the US Embassy. The foreigner was allowed to resume coverage when he showed his identification, but he appeared flushed and indignant.

"I know they (the police) are just doing their jobs, but they are stereotyping terrorists and I think it's stupid," the Indian told other reporters. "Indians look a lot like Arabs, but not all Arabs are terrorists."

Some of the protesters dipped their hands in red paint, symbolizing their opposition to terrorism and militarism. Other demonstrators, including passersby, brought flowers and lighted candles outside the embassy to show their sympathy for the victims.

Fortaleza said they oppose US plans to launch military strikes against Afghanistan and other countries suspected of harboring terrorists. He said they do not agree that the Philippines, because of defense ties with the US, should be dragged into the crisis.

Malacañang recently approved US requests that it be allowed to use airports in the country as transit points for the possible evacuation of Americans and the refueling of US planes.

"This brandishing of military might cannot eradicate terrorist groups and will only provoke them, especially if retribution would be indiscriminate," Fortaleza said.

Genatos: See you in court

BY ANDREA TRINIDAD-ECHAVEZ

MANOR Hotel owners William and Rebecca Genato refused to submit themselves yesterday to the Quezon City prosecutor's office which had been conducting a preliminary investigation of the complaints lodged against them in connection with the Aug. 18 fire that hit their hotel and killed scores of people.

Assistant prosecutor Alfredo Agcaoili said the Genatos waived their rights to answer the charges and submit counter-affidavits.

With the couple's decision, the case is deemed to be resolved based only on the evidence presented by the victims.

Agcaoili said he would submit his recommendation to city prosecutor Claro Arellano on Sept. 21, the deadline given by Quezon City Mayor Feliciano Belmonte to resolve the case.

If the prosecutor found enough evidence, the case against Manor owners would most likely be filed in the lower court by October.

The Inquirer yesterday learned that the number of people who died as a result of the fire rose to 81 after some of those hurt in the incident succumbed while undergoing treatment.

Lawyer Roberto Barrales, lead counsel of the victims, yesterday expressed optimism the prosecutor would recommend the filing of the case in court, citing "irrefutable evidence."

"When they (Manor owners) waived their rights to file counter affidavits, it was tantamount to telling the prosecutor to decide on the matter based on our evidence," Barrales told the Inquirer.

About 40 relatives of victims of the Manor fire attended yesterday's preliminary investigation.

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TRAPPED
Pasig City Mayor Soledad Eusebio (left) shows a marked P20-bill used during an entrapment operation that resulted in the arrest of MMDA traffic enforcer Arnaldo Mulano (center), of Barangay Sagad, Pasig. Sampaguita vendor Chris Flores was said to be a witness. The suspect was caught in the act of receiving money from a driver while Mulano was directing traffic at the corner of Ortigas Avenue Extension and Dr. Sixto Antonio Avenue. Eusebio received complaints about the alleged extortion by Mulano through her "I-text Mo Kay Mayor Soly" project.

'MICROPOLIS'

Councilor proposes creation of 'cities' within Manila

BY JEROME ANING

A MANILA councilor has proposed the creation of "micropolises" in the city, which are specific zones within the capital where City Hall can better concentrate its socio-economic development efforts.

Minority floor leader Don Ramon Bagatsing said that over the decades, certain parts of the city have developed their distinct "fields of specialization." But City Hall has yet to pay them more attention and support.

Bagatsing said these "cities within a city" like Intramuros, which was old Manila's political and religious enclave, have evolved distinct identities drawn from a particular industry or area of expertise.

Among these micropolises in Manila are the Divisoria-Chinatown mercantile district, the University Belt along C.M. Recto Avenue, the Ermita information technology center and the Malate tourist belt.

In a privilege speech delivered in the city council early this week, Bagatsing said he is confident the development of the micropolises would reinvigorate Manila's economy.

Each micropolis, he said, would have the same functions of the Chinatown Development Authority, which oversees development in the Divisoria-Binondo area.

But unlike the CDA, the authority of the micropolises would extend far beyond mere dialogue and cooperation between the public and the private sectors in the city, Bagatsing said.

He said the functions of the micropolis are patterned after those of the special economic zones created by the national government, such as Subic and Clark, the Laguna techno park, the North Luzon Growth Quadrangle, the Calabarzon and the various export-processing zones.

Each micropolis, Bagatsing said, "will have special tax laws and would be granted special and specific functions geared toward improving the standard of living, trade, tourism and education in the city."

He proposed to give tax holidays, tax credits and even tax exemptions to businesses that would relocate or expand their operations in the micropolises.

"Applying the concept that 'birds of the same feather flock together,' we can somehow attract IT firms to locate in Ermita, and eventually it would become the place where people can get IT services," he said.

Bagatsing said it would be easier to manage smaller areas with the same characteristics, such as the micropolis, than large areas with scattered businesses.

He believes that the micropolises, if managed well, will not only improve their particular industries but also create "economic clusters" that would be a long-term source of income for the city's government.

Economic clusters, he said, are geographic concentrations of interconnected firms in a particular field, like schools existing side by side with book and school supplies traders and dormitory facilities in the University Belt.

"The micropolis concept is a mix of good urban planning, market segmentation, specific sourcing of revenues and new and revolutionary concepts in bringing life back to the city we love," he said.

Earlier, Bagatsing proposed a "critical collaboration" with the administration of Mayor Lito Atienza. He said he hopes Atienza and his allies in the council would understand that the only way Manila could compete with its neighboring cities is to divide the city into specialized segments and develop them.

Free maternal care for Las Piñas women

MORE than 6,000 women in Las Piñas City have benefited from the free maternal care and child delivery services at the Las Piñas Lying-In Center one year after its establishment, according to Mayor Vergel "Nene" Aguilar.

About 1,400 pregnant women were also able to avail themselves of free child delivery services.

The Lying-In Center will celebrate its first anniversary on Sept. 20 with a week of free medical and dental services in the city's 20 barangays.

Aguilar and Vice Mayor Louie Bustamante also lauded Dr. Julio Javier II, lying-in center administrator, and doctors Alvin Isidoro and Rica Macaroy and the entire staff for their commitment in providing the city residents quality health care.

The 14-bed, fully air-conditioned maternity clinic located in Barangay CAA was built last year with the support of the Urban Health and Nutrition Program (UHNP) of the Department of Health.

The clinic is open 24 hours and is supervised by experienced doctors, midwives and nurses.

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Porn VCDs seized

AS PART of Makati City's campaign against pirated music compact discs and video compact discs, an operation led by Makati policemen recently confiscated hundreds of illegal and pornographic VCDs in separate raids.

The raids, which netted 931 VCDs, were conducted on orders of Mayor Jejomar Binay and the city police chief, Supt. Jovito Gutierrez, in a drive against sellers and manufacturers of counterfeit CDs and VCDs.

The video materials were confiscated after the Special Operations Group of the police monitored the sidewalks of Ayala, Makati and Buendia avenues, Mantrade, J.P. Rizal and Hormiga streets for smut VCDs.

Earlier, the Makati City Council proposed an ordinance that would penalize not only the manufacturers and distributors of pirated audio and video discs but also those who buy them or those found simply carrying them.

Under the ordinance, a violator would be fined P3,000 or jailed for three to five days for the first offense. Second-time offenders would be fined P5,000 or jailed for three to five days.

Business Cluster Month

TO PROMOTE academic excellence, research competence and responsible community involvement, the University of Santo Tomas (UST) Graduate School celebrates this September the Business Cluster Month.

The month-long celebration is meant to fulfill the three-fold objectives and revolves around how the academe can contribute to poverty alleviation.

Aside from providing opportunities for graduate students and faculty members to interact with each other about school works outside the confines of the classroom, the celebration also enhances their leadership abilities as well as the spirit of volunteerism.

One of the activities is a community outreach mission to be held on Sept. 22 in Tondo, Manila.

"The mission aims to translate what is learned and what is researched into something useful for the community," Graduate School Dean Lilian J. Sison said.

Month-long defogging to fight dengue in Mandaluyong

MANDALUYONG City Mayor Benhur Abalos has renewed the call for an extensive clean-up drive and defogging operations in the city's 27 barangays amid rising statistics on dengue cases in Metro Manila.

While the city's health office records show few dengue-related cases in Mandaluyong as compared to other areas nationwide, Abalos said his objective is to reduce the cases to a minimum, if not to zero.

"We are talking of lives here," the mayor said. "We cannot just sit back and watch our constituents die of the virus without a fight."

He said that as part of his "Oplan Kontra Dengue" campaign, well-trained personnel and members of the Bantay Bayan would conduct defogging operations for a month until all the city's barangays are covered.

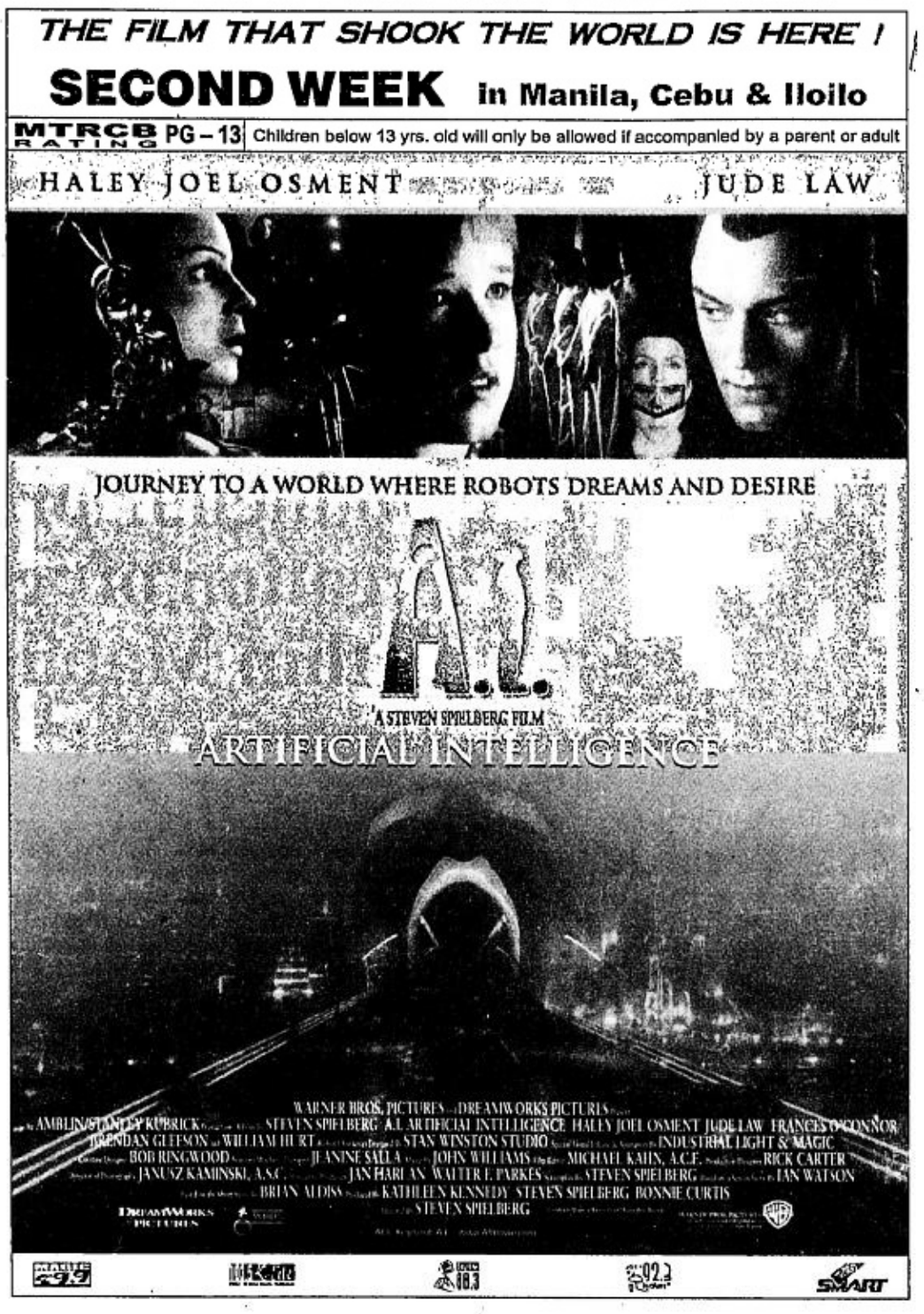
"We are doing the defogging responsibly," he said. "Our operation includes the clean-up of sewerage and drainage canals to destroy the breeding grounds of mosquitoes."

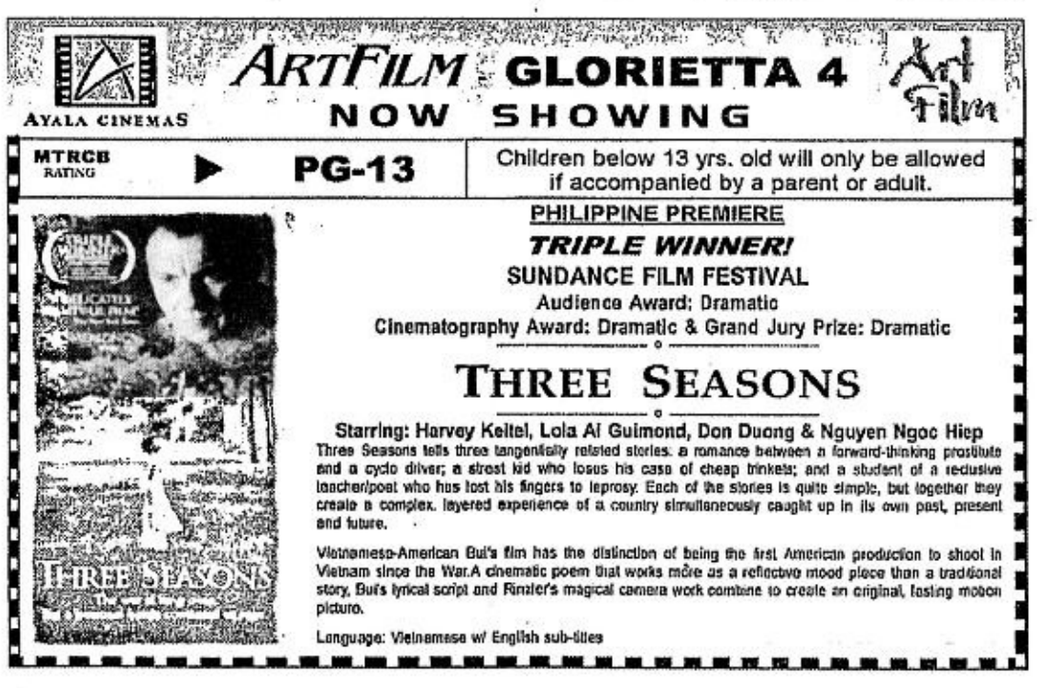
In 1998, Mandaluyong was adjudged a model city for its effective approach in the fight against dengue through Oplan Kontra Dengue, where Abalos mapped out a "people power" campaign to counter the dengue outbreak.

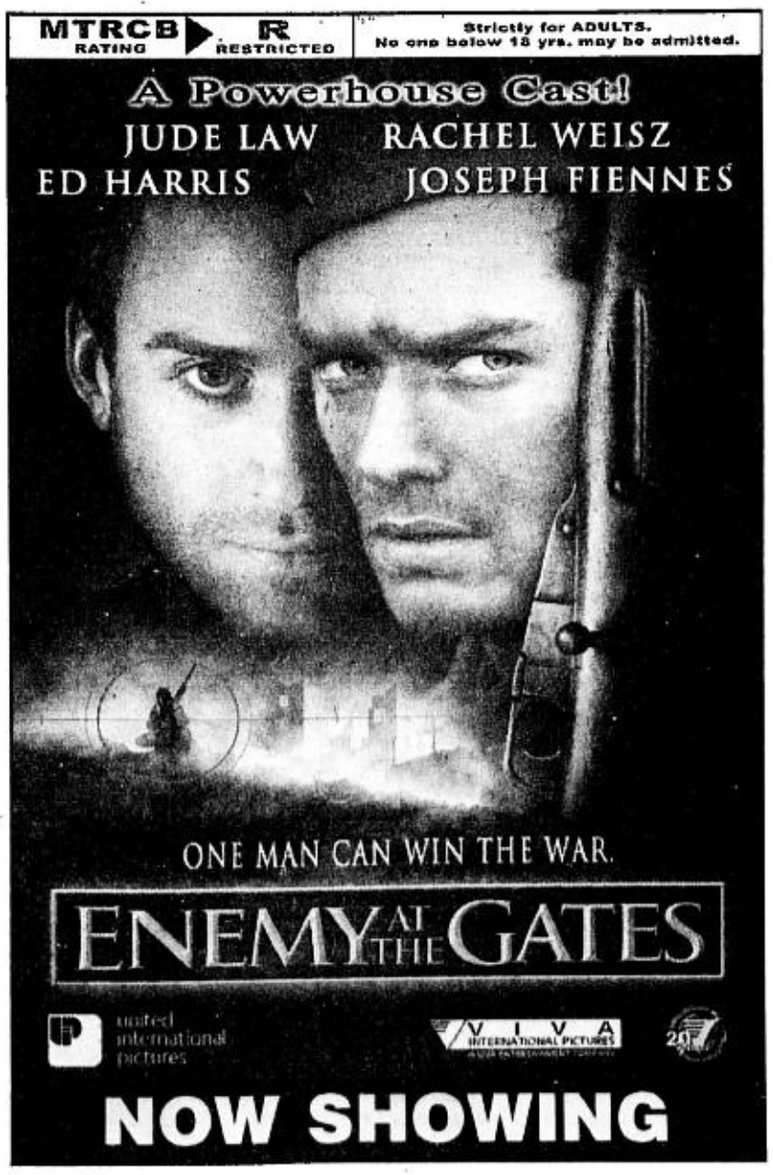
The city was also cited for its innovative device called Ovitrap which uses painted cans and lawanit boards to trap and kill insects at an early stage.

City health office chief Teresita Lim announced that the department would conduct continued health training and seminars, particularly on the dengue virus, in all barangays.

On Sept. 17, a ceremonial setting up of Ovitrap at the Mandaluyong City High School will be conducted to attract students to participate in the war against dengue.







METRO

LOUIE C. CAMINO, Editor

Are the lights dimming in Manila's nightlife?

BY CYNTHIA P. ALLANIGUE

HACE Lee lived in Manila for five years as a young entrepreneur before she packed her bags and went to Hong Kong two years ago. While in Manila, she would attend to her shops that sold garments from her native Korea by day. By night, she would transform into a party girl frequenting bars with friends. She was in the constant company of fellow expatriates and tourists, hobnobbing with members of the urban elite who were themselves fixtures of Manila's bars, the ultimate in party scene.

When Hace came back to the Philippines recently for a vacation, little did she know that her favorite nighttime hangouts were no more.

She rang old friends to visit Giraffe, the famous watering hole at the snobbish 6750 building along Ayala Avenue in Makati, only to find out it had closed. A walk around Glorietta revealed that what used to be the popular Stars was no longer shining. Mondo and Fat Willy's at the upscale The Fort had pulled their curtains down.

Her drive to Malate proved even more disappointing. Matina, Politixx, along with other holes in the wall, had become history. Indeed, what used to be Manila's trendiest hangouts had padlocked their doors.

Hace was told these joints had to shut down due to the bad publicity and the real dangers that the Philippines had become famous for – kidnapping, drugs, corruption, bad economy and bad government. With multinational corporations moving their operations elsewhere, expatriates disappearing, local companies folding up, and the Philippine middle class nearing extinction, there was little reason for investors to stay, let alone party.

Staying on

Disappointed, Hace returned to Hong Kong, wondering what had happened to what she used to think was the liveliest place on earth, where drinks poured endlessly, music played in high decibels, people were always socializing and the night lights always shone bright.

If Hace had stayed longer and looked around more patiently, she would have found out that the sagging economy and the political crisis that plague the country no end have not deterred hopelessly optimistic businessmen and women from turning the crisis into a challenge.

She would have found out that with the exit of many foreigners, a number of Filipino entrepreneurs have chosen to stay, willing to stick their necks out for the country even if it meant risking their last savings.

In fact, most of those that have survived are Filipino-owned bars and restaurants. Filipino entrepreneurs who are determined to survive the country's battle-scarred economy are here to stay. In fact, they insist that hope is not lost for the Philippines.

Three men and a Dish

Ernest John Litton, EJ to friends, has been in the bar and restaurant business for eight years now. His name is synonymous with Strumm's, home to fun-loving young professionals whose passion is to unwind through good music and affordable food and drinks after their daily 8-hour office grind. EJ too, was the man behind Stars where the elite and elite-wannabes used to go to be seen. It is the same Stars that Hace, during her recent trip here, found closed after two short years of operation.

> 'No matter what government you are talking about, there is still a segment of the population that has to go out, eat and be entertained.'

"Stars started out wrong," says EJ. "Stars' restaurant side was supposed to sustain the place and the late-night entertainment was just its gravy. The restaurant part didn't work, and the late-night entertainment did. But late night (entertainment) is ever changing. It's the food that will sustain you more than the entertainment."

By the time Stars was beginning to make money, it was still paying its losses, paving the way for its closure.

It was during his experience with Strumm's and Stars that EJ conceptualized what is now the most packed restaurant-cum-bar in town — Dish, at the posh Rockwell Center which is owned by the Lopez family. Together with friends Ricky Dee and Philip Cu-unjieng, EJ put up Dish, a fusion of affordable dishes, food-court style, fine dining and live entertainment.

A gamble

Ricky, who is president and CEO of the Food Link Group of Companies that specializes in food courts, is instrumental in adding twist to the so-called fine dining ambience. By incorporating seven cuisines in Dish, each prepared in seven different kitchens, fine dining has taken a newer, more relaxing and casual ambience coupled with quicker service.

"People would rather get value for their money," says EJ. "In Dish, if you have P150, you can have two viands, rice, *lumpia* and softdrink. And look at the place!" He is referring to the waiters serving customers at tables, the spotless floor and the air conditioning units that work. For P200 to P250, one can have steak.

"Basically you defy the trend," says Philip. "If there's a downtrend then we have to come up with something unique. Everything is a gamble. Everything's a risk. If we talk about foreigners leaving the country, fine, let them leave. If the Filipino entrepreneur does not take a gamble on this country, then we might as well have left."

EJ agrees. "You have to believe in yourself and the people. If we can't believe in ourselves to do something about it, then we can't open businesses. You have to have faith and confidence."

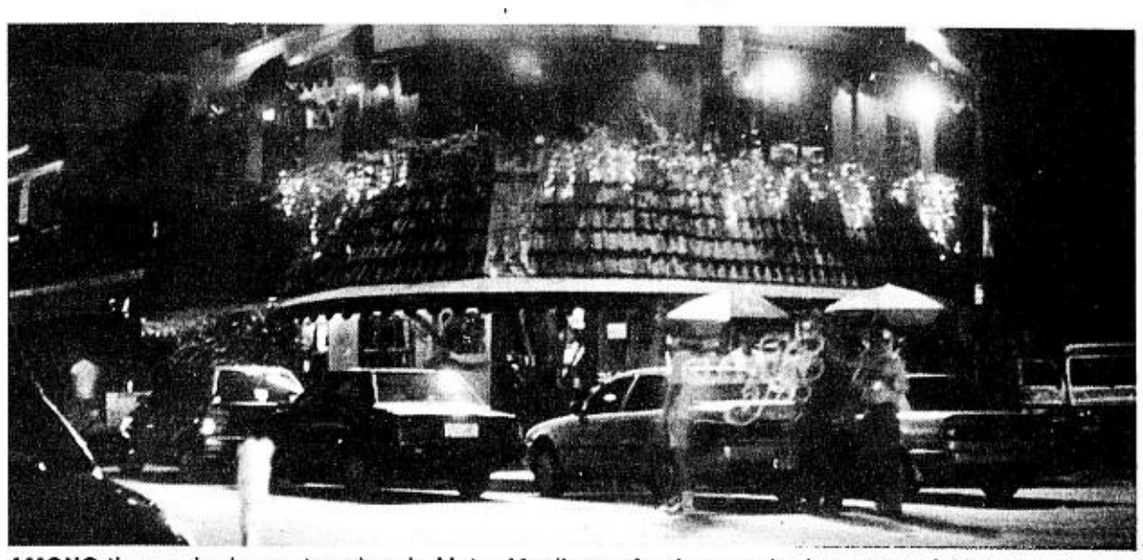
Since Dish opened, people have not stopped coming, once, twice and more.

"The chances of success of an establishment like Dish is beyond government," says Philip. "No matter what government you are talking about, there is still a segment of the population that has to go out, eat and be entertained."

No way to go but up

Larry J. Cruz, king of the LJC Group of Companies that breathed life into Manila's dying culture many years back, has considered himself semi-retired. He spends the weekends in his farm and has left the reins of his office to his daughter, Lorna Cruz Ambas.

The LJC restaurants and bars include Café Adriatico, their signature restaurant, Havana Café, Bistro Remedios and Bistro Lorenzo, all constant crowd drawers in Manila's restaurant circuit. But even they have not been spared the problem of decrease in patronage.



AMONG those who have stayed on in Metro Manila are foreigners who have more faith in the country than the Filipinos themselves.

"If we don't learn to adapt to the times and if we don't continue our business, the economy will really come to a halt," says Lorna. "We have hit rock bottom. There is no way to go but up."

She is candid about the low turnout of customers during trying times. At the height of the impeachment trial of ex-President Estrada, for instance, customers were scarce.

"At that time, even our regulars didn't show up and we missed them. There was hardly anybody coming in because everyone was watching the impeachment proceedings on TV. So we put up TV sets in Bistro Remedios."

When ballroom dancing wasn't the in thing yet, LJC had already put up Paper Moon, where the old and the not so old, clad in their ballroom best, honed their boogie and perfected their tango. It was LJC too, in a team effort with adjacent bar owners, that introduced the now-famous and all-too-often-held street parties.

As the fad changed, so did people's taste in entertainment. Makati soon caught up with the rage in ballroom dancing and Paper Moon was forced to close.

Luckier

But some are luckier than others, and LJC is luckier than its competitors. Lording it over for the past 22 years starting with Café Adriatico that has become an institution, LJC has survived the opening and closing of some of its restaurants.

Its most popular outlet to date is the Café Havana, home to live Latin music and authentic Latin food. Café Adriatico, its signature restaurant, remains its biggest revenue earner.

"It's a hit or miss thing," says Lorna. "When you find a formula that works you have to make sure that you keep it up. Everybody has to eat. You just have to be sure about the quality of your food, keep your prices affordable, give your place character and ensure good service."

New melting pot

Gerry Wallace has lived in Manila for more than five years now. He was part of the team that created the once popular Fat Willy's at The Fort. He has worked closely with Michael Gibb, the former general manager of The Mandarin Hotel. No, they haven't scurried back to their homeland. Instead, Gerry claims, they have chosen to stay despite the closure of Fat Willy's and despite the bad press.

Gerry and Michael, in partnership with Filipino investors, are enjoying the fruits of their labor. Wasabi in Makati, the newest Japanese restaurant in town, continues to attract all kinds of nationalities.

Wasabi, which has a comfortable seating capacity of 200, seems to have no lean days or nights. The turnover of people is quite fast and the place gets fuller the later it gets at night. On weekends, the place accommodates an average of 600 people at different times of the day.

"Restaurants and tourism go hand in hand," says Gerry. "The worldwide scenario about restaurants is good for your economy as is tourism.

"I come from Ireland and we have our own problems there. The United Kingdom has problems. France has problems. Everyone is going through that. Tourism and services are the two biggest money-earners anywhere, including countries with bigger problems."

It seems, Gerry has more faith in the Philippines than a lot of Filipinos.

More to come

Despite the barrage of bad news, there is no stopping these enterprising individuals from taking advantage of the challenges the hard times. Everybody needs a break, even the average Filipino. No matter that the middle class is thinning and their peso is stretched to the limit, a number of restaurants and bars are scheduled to open soon—according to the grapevine, about 20 of them.

Among them is a new LJC-owned Café Havana at the Greenbelt in Makati. The old Giraffe will be resurrected in a few months, this time under another name, Dreams, still largely owned by ex-PLDT man Tonyboy Cojuangco.

The old Matina on J. Nakpil in Malate is reopening in another spot, also in Manila. The owners of Dish plan to make their Rockwell outlet only the first of a series.

Of course, all it takes is a few extra million bucks to be able to open such outlets. Dish at the Rockwell occupies at least 1,000 sqm. While none of the owners want to reveal how much it cost them to open their restaurants, talk is wild that at Rockwell, it requires a conservative P5 million to P7 million to be able to open an outlet one-fifth the size of Dish, not including kitchen fixtures.

But for those who've got that amount, that's a minor problem. Somebody should have told Hace that not all is dark in Manila's party district.

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SCARY MOVIE 2 - R 18 11:50, 1:50, 3:50, 5:50, 7:50, 9:50	A KNIGHT'S TALE - P 13 10:50, 1:30, 4:10, 6:50, 9:30	ENEMY AT THE GATES - R 18 11:20, 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00

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Composting, recycling score high with Jawo

BY JOEY PAPA

HARDCOURT legend and now Sen. Robert B. Jaworski is in a different ballgame.

As chair of the Senate committee on environment, Jaworski is serious and determined in helping save Mother Nature.

"If we don't do anything about the fast-increasing degradation, who will do it for us?" he asked.

In the festering garbage issue, Jaworski offers composting and recycling as viable solutions.

"I know very well how organic fertilizer can be obtained from composting biodegradable waste," he said. "Those days when we went over the solid waste bills gave me a good education. And, of course, many useful, recycled products can be made from non-biodegradable waste.

"I have learned of so many local technologies and practices we can make use of to solve the problem. I have friends who are into fabricating mechanisms to turn garbage into resource, so why do we have to continue suffering the problem?"

Jaworski himself has filed, co-authored, or sponsored a number of bills, some of which have been passed into law, including the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act or Republic Act No. 9003 that seeks to solve the garbage problem.

"Unfortunately, while we were all deliberating on the law, and even before that, we failed to carry out an effective campaign to make people understand and learn how to reduce and properly manage waste," he said.

Jaworski's involvement in environmental issues lends more substance to his image than that which the public can hardly shake off. After all, he continues to have their admiration, earned during his long years of golden performances in basketball, although "I have sponsored only very few basketball clinics," he added.

Jaworski is busy these days with the filing of bills devoted to enhancing local natural and recreational resources; strengthening national marine sanctuaries; preserving coral reefs; combating air pollution; promoting ecological solid waste management; protecting natural sites; cleaning up toxic wastes, strengthening protection for wildlife; ensuring public health; pushing for land for the landless; encouraging responsible environment policies.

JAWORSKI

After a two-week recess, Jaworski hopes the Senate will finally be able to make time for legislative priorities including the bills he has filed.

Jaworski's son Dodot, who is also his chief of staff, is his father's number one fan and believes strongly that his father could inspire all of Barangay Ginebra into becoming a nationwide environment and waste management team.

"I believe he can lead them to victory in recycling and composting and renewing the much degraded," the son said. "After all, he joined the political fray at the 'last two minutes' and with no organizational backup to speak of, and with only very few watchers during the counting. But he won a seat, decisively."

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THREE SEASONS

Starring: Harvey Keitel, Lola Al Guimond, Don Duong & Nguyen Ngoc Hiep
Three Seasons tells three tangentially related stories: a romance between a forward-thinking prostitute and a cyclo driver; a street kid who loses his case of cheap trinkets; and a student of a reclusive tanchor/poet who has lost his fingers to leprosy. Each of the stories is quite simple, but together they create a complex, layered experience of a country simultaneously caught up in its own past, present and future.

Vietnamese-American Bui's film has the distinction of being the first American production to shoot in Vietnam since the War.A cinematic poem that works more as a reflective mood piece than a traditional story, Bui's lyrical script and Runzler's magical camera work combine to create an original, lasting motion picture.

Language: Vietnamese w/ English sub-titles

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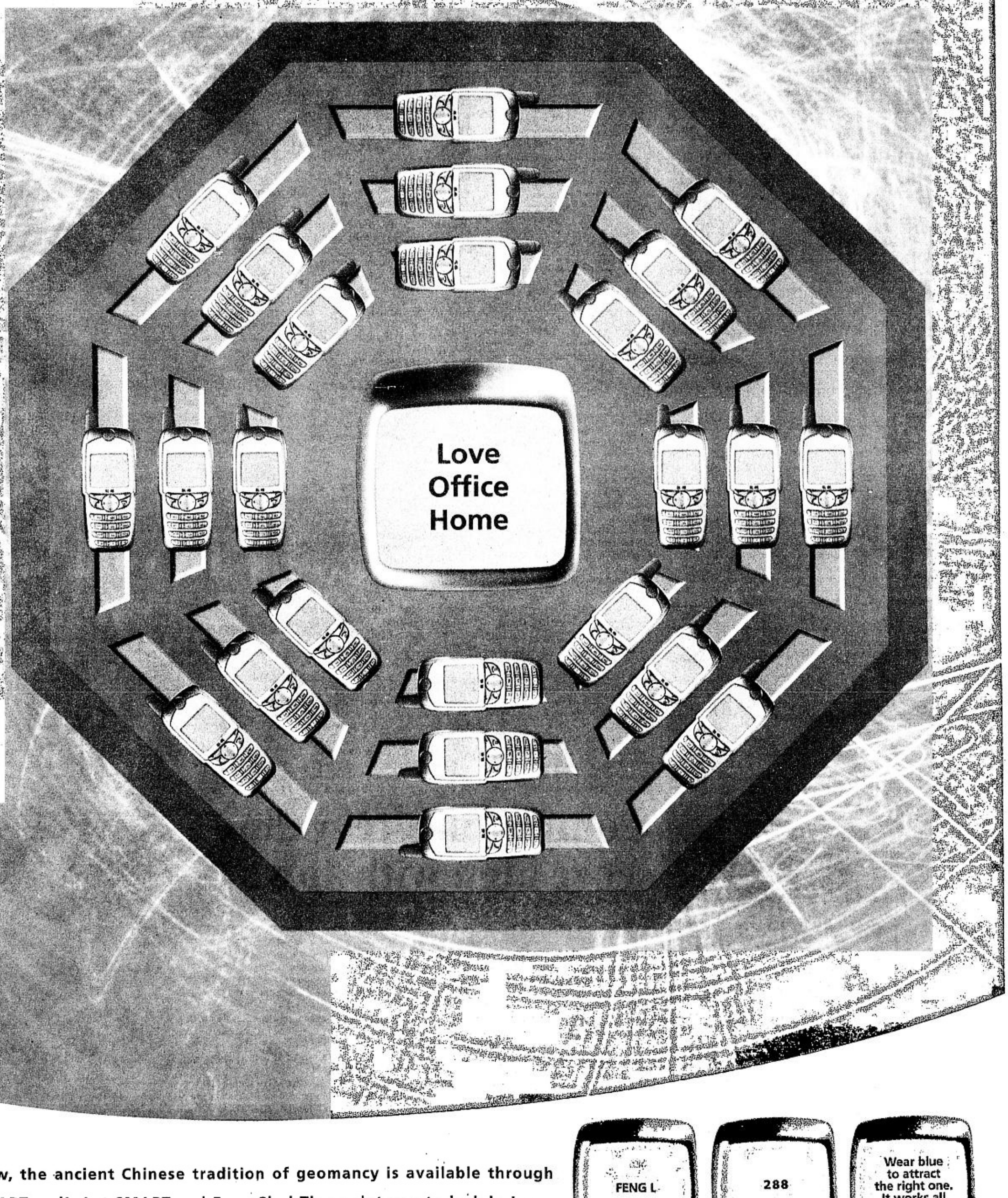

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BUSINESS

RAUL O. MARCELO, Editor ■ CORRIE S. NARISMA, Assistant Editor

MWSS, Maynilad talks bog down

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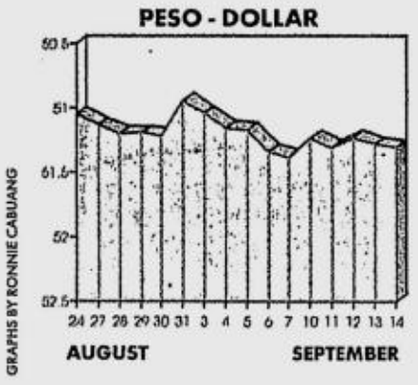

Peso-Dollar Rate

₱51.30 = $1
As of 5 p.m., Sept. 14, 2001

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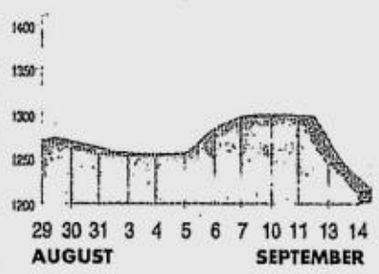
GOLD:$283.7/ 284.75
per ounce Hong Kong, Sept. 14, 2001

STOCK MARKET

Stocks drift lower



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Turnover remained anemic with investors loathe to take fresh positions amidst the current cloud of uncertainty.

(See stock market report on Page B6)

STOCKS/ B6

BY CHRISTINE A. GAYLICAN

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Mabanta declined to disclose what transpired during their meeting with Maynilad representatives but another high-ranking MWSS official, who requested anonymity, said the board members failed to resolve issues involving Maynilad as the latter demanded a major overhaul of its concession agreement.

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However, Maynilad secured a temporary restraining order from the Court of Appeals and this has kept MWSS from touching the money.

Mabanta said that the MWSS would need to borrow some P1 billion from local banks to cover for the unpaid concession fees of Maynilad, which has amounted to P1.33 billion as of this August.

MWSS/ B2

World financial community closes ranks

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Corporate rivalries were laid aside as companies—many of them with offices and with many, many employees in the destroyed World Trade Center—displayed a solidarity never before seen in a sector better known for its profits-before-people capitalism.

Trading in bonds, currency and stocks virtually flatlined in the markets that were open yesterday, after taking a massive body-blow as Tuesday's horrific events unfolded. Trading floors in New York have been closed since the attacks and were not expected to reopen until Monday.

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In other centers, the sentiment was the same, anguish and mourning taking precedence over business ruthlessness.

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It also said the large banks had agreed among themselves to keep trading to a minimum to give those hard-hit time to bring their back-up systems up to speed.

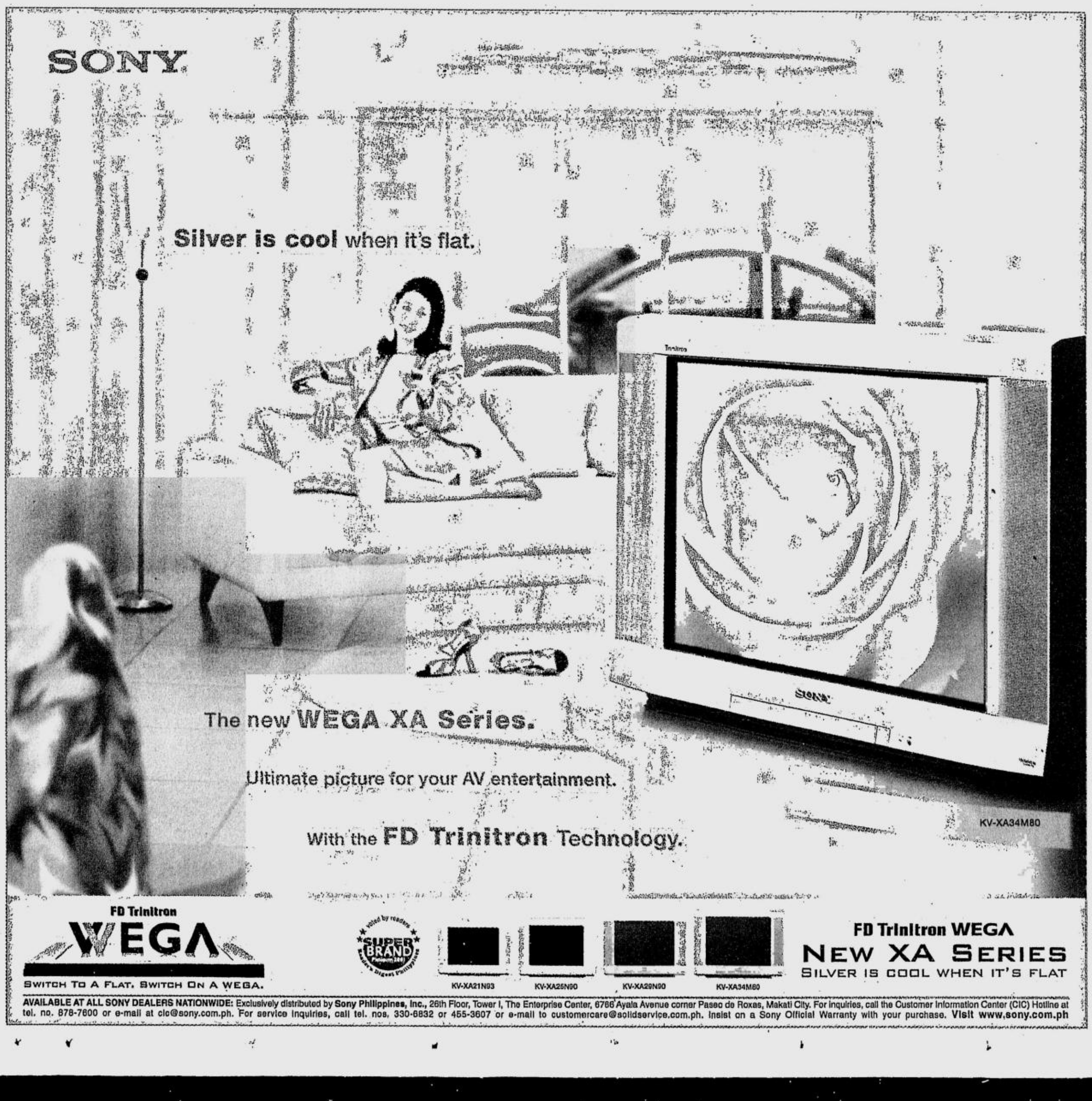
"There is an element of camaraderie and a feeling that people shouldn't make profit out of disasters, but there are going to be some hedge funds who do," David Gould, a London stockbroker at Teather and Greenwood, told AFP. He added that he believed British institutions would sit tight for a week, "until things settle down."

A return to normalcy, though, is not certain. As a London economist at Commerzbank, Kamal Sharma, said: "We are in unchartered waters here. We have not had a shutdown in the financial system for such a long period since World War II."

There was also the prospect the United States, if it determined a foreign group or state was responsible, would embark on a military reprisal that would send the chill wind of war through equity and forex markets.

A French economic analysis firm, the Bureau d'Informations et

WORLD/ B6



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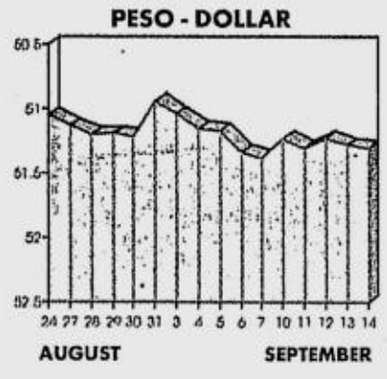

GRAPHS BY RONNIE CABUANG

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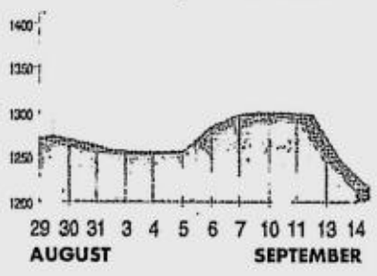

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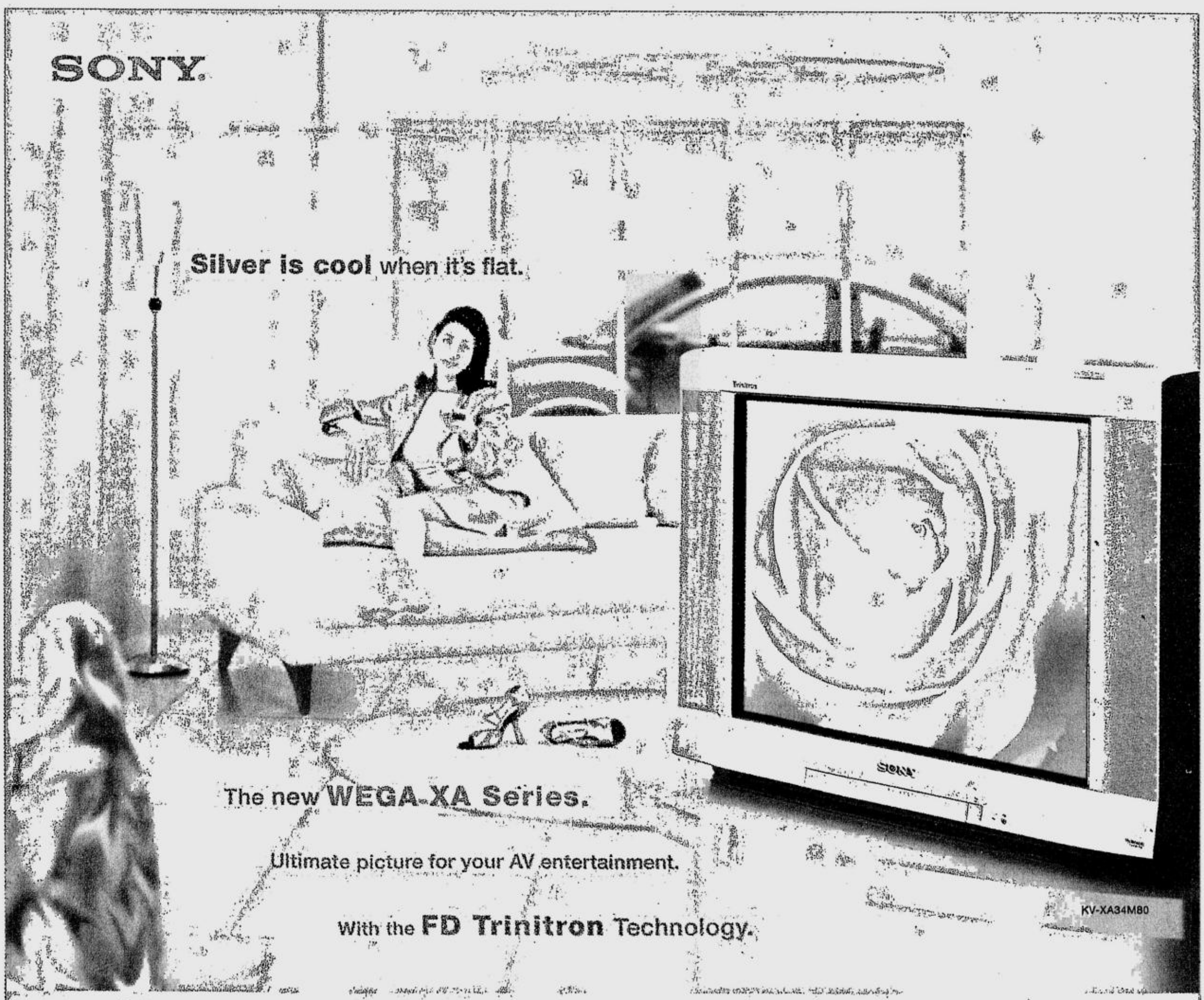

Walking visit

BREAKTIME

Conrado R. Banal III

TOKYO (via PLDT)—This cute administration of Gloriaetta is getting a boost of confidence from the Japanese business community. Well, for a change!

Before coming here, Gloriaetta knew the concerns of Japanese business over investments in the Philippines. Peace and order. Labor militancy. Ping Lacs . . . no, wrong, not that!

Anyway, the Japanese business chamber in Manila has warned about the shift of Japanese investments away from the Philippines. They have been going instead to the likes of Vietnam.

Maybe that's why Gloriaetta comes here on a working visit, although her Cabinet men say it is more of an 'over-working' visit. Her schedule is packed from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.

After a hectic day, she fields questions from media until 12 midnight. I should be dreaming by then. As you know, in Tokyo, you do a lot of walking. It's a walking visit to me.

* * *

ANYWAY, if this cute administration is getting upbeat on the Tokyo visit, I think it's because the Economist in Chief herself has a good grasp of economic and business issues.

Trade and Industry Secretary Mar Roxas tells me that Gloriaetta impresses the Japanese executives so much, they don't even smoke in her presence. I'm just kidding!

Mar says the chair of the Japan-Philippines Economic Cooperation Committee, Iwao Toriumi, who is only the chair of the giant Marubeni, says Gloriaetta is our best sales person.

Now I can't say if Toriumi has a crush on Gloriaetta, although she can indeed be quite charming at times, particularly if she is not asked something about rice rotting in a warehouse.

The point is, because she knows what she is talking about on economic and business issues, Gloriaetta can project some jumbo-size confidence. It always rubs off. Ask her boys.

* * *

IN a press conference with the Japan National Press Club, for instance, it becomes clear to me that Gloriaetta can expound more confidently on issues on economics than on, say, geopolitics.

A question seeks to find out her thinking on the fast rising power of China in the region. She limits her answer to bilateral relationship. It's something good. Or something like that!

In comparison, somebody asks about her sales pitch for new areas of investments for Japanese business in the Philippines. I think she suddenly glows with excitement.

Japan has an aging population, she says, and its people will soon need more health care services. Maybe the young population of the Philippines can provide it. For a change!

Frankly, she gets me too! Our embassy says there are 144,000 Filipinos here. The real number may be close to half a million. Most of them are entertainers. Euphemistically speaking!

* * *

SOMEBODY also asks Gloriaetta about her thinking on the impact of the terrorist attack on the US on the world economy. For this question she does not call somebody on the cellphone.

Right away, she just says it all depends on the US reaction. It's also, by the way, how Japanese executives look at the situation, based on her meetings with them.

To be sure, Gloriaetta says, the US will do things to prop up the public mood. Priming the economic pump is one way, she says. In short, the impact may not be too adverse.

The initial scenario was a global recession. Then, leading central banks of the world pumped into financial markets something like $120 billion. There's no more panic now, in short.

News reports already talk about a supplemental budget for the US government to deal with the crisis. It amounts to only $40 billion. Just for getting even! It's an expensive revenge.

* * *

FINANCE Secretary Jose Isidro Camacho and Bangko Sentral Governor Rafael Buenaventura are also doing calls on the banks here. They are borrowing money, of course. What else is there?

The Whiz tells me that Japanese banks look more kindly on the Philippines. Our credit rating is "investment grade" here. In fact, he receives a lot of proposals from them.

But aren't the Japanese banks in trouble because of all those huge bad debts? The Whiz says it's another story. They still have a lot of money to lend. I see. We ought to get some.

Tito Paeng also feels that the Japanese, both on the government and the private sides, are rather friendly to the Philippines. I should think so, boss!

Well, Tito Paeng gets a $3-billion swap deal with the Japanese finance ministry. I need a full column for it later. I want to explain it in a way that even senators can get it.

* * *

BUT back to Mar Roxas, in any presidential trip to Japan, the big deals happen in the closed-door audience of executives with the President, and from what I hear, that's where Mar starred.

All in all, 10 conglomerates call on Gloriaetta in this trip. Mar doesn't keep a running total of the amount of investments which Gloriaetta elicits. At least "promises" of investments.

But Mar tells the story that the top man of Fujitsu Ltd., which makes disk drives in the Philippines, asks Gloriaetta this: If you are the chair of Fujitsu, what will you do?

I think that's just the kind of question that can get Gloriaetta going as fast as the Japanese bullet train. She supposedly tells the executive why she will invest in the Philippines.

And then she recites a litany of the investment areas where Japanese companies can go. Mar says he himself can not keep up with her. Well, boss, she worked in the DTI once!

Gov't urged to raise tariffs on fabrics, yarn

BY GIL C. CABACUNGAN JR.

THE FEDERATION of Philippine Textile Industries is urging the Cabinet-level Tariff and Related Matters to push for the rationalization of the duties on textile, including spun yarn, to stimulate the development of local fabric makers.

The FPTI said the generous tariff that the government has imposed on imported fabric and yarn made the Philippines the dumping ground for the excess production of neighboring countries.

The FPTI cited as example the duty rate on spun yarn. While the Philippines imposes only 5-percent tariff on spun yarn, Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia, China and Vietnam charge 10 percent. India slaps a high of 21 percent for India.

"Unless these distortions are corrected, we will see the demise of the remaining manufacturing firms," the FPTI said. The group is set to meet with Trade Secretary Manuel "Mar" Roxas II to get support for its petition.

Long dismissed as a sunset industry because of the country's lack of inputs such as cotton and man-made fibers, textile makers have recently grouped together to push their agenda for government support in sharpening the industry's competitiveness especially in a globalize environment.

Due to fierce competition from both the legitimate imports and smuggled goods, the FPTI said the installed capacity of local spinning mills have fallen from 1.5 million spindles in 1991 to 350,000 last year.

The DTI has expressed support in reviving the industry's future with its plan to draw up a package of incentives and logistics support program in preparation for the start of a quota-free market.

Merger of LTDI units OKd

STOCKHOLDERS of La Tondeña Distillers Inc. approved in yesterday's special meeting the merger of Sugarland Beverage Corp., Metro Bottled Water Corp. and SMC Juice Inc. into LTDI with La Tondeña as the surviving corporation.

This forms part of the restructuring of the water and juice businesses of LTDI in line with the proposed sale of the brands and assets of these businesses to The Coca-Cola Co. (TCCC) and Coca-Cola Bottlers Philippines Inc. (CCBPI), which was reacquired by LTDI parent firm San Miguel Corp. recently.

SMC and LTDI chair Eduardo Cojuangco Jr. said that with the proceeds from the sale of the water and juice businesses, La Tondeña would gain the financial flexibility it needed to fully implement its strategies.

LTDI now focuses on restoring growth in its liquor business and profitability in Southern Philippines, building new markets and intensifying exports, and preparing for allied businesses, which would further capitalize on its existing competencies, Cojuangco said.

In the first semester of the year, La Tondeña reported a creditable performance despite an increasingly difficult operating environment. Its consolidated revenues in the first half rose by 12 percent to P7.841 billion from P6.995 billion a year ago. First semester operating income amounted to P1.5 billion.

As part of its key strategy to bring its liquor business to a new growth level, LTDI has been aggressively developing new products and penetrating new markets. La Tondeña has launched K35 and GSM Blue, lower proof variants of Vino Kulafu and Ginebra. These two new products, launched primarily for the Visayas and Mindanao markets, are giving consumers in these areas a greater variety of choice.

The company also achieved a significant breakthrough in regional expansion, exporting close to 200,000 cases of various products to Thailand. LTDI's goal is to double these orders by the end of the year and become a more active player in Thailand's Bh85-billion liquor market.

MWSS, Maynilad talks bog down

(From page B1)

The MWSS and the Department of Budget and Management have been advancing the loan payments to multilateral financing institution, Asian Development Bank and other official creditors to which the government agency owed money.

Mabanta said they would need to borrow as early as September so as not to default on their loans.

"We are running out of money and we need it as early as next month. Our hands our tied because we could not tap the $200-million performance bond of Maynilad with the pending court injunction," Mabanta said.

Maynilad is a joint venture between the Lopez Group and Ondeo Philippines, which is formerly Suez Lyonnaise des Eaux of France. It services the west zone, which includes Manila, Pasay, Las Piñas, Malabon, Muntinlupa, Valenzuela, Navotas, Parañaque, Bacoor, Kawit, Imus, Cavite City, Noveleta, Rosario and parts of Taguig and Quezon City.

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September 21 (1:30-2:30 p.m.)	PaperOne: All Purpose Paper	JND Int'l Corp. / April Fine Paper
September 21 (3:00-5:00 p.m.)	The Papers of the Future	Star Paper Corporation

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SCHEDULE OF FREE TECHNICAL PRESENTATIONS

DATE & TIME	TOPIC	PRESENTED BY:
September 19 (1:30 p.m.)	"The Art in Packaging: Making Your Products Stand Out"	San Miguel Packaging Products
September 19 (3:00 p.m.)	"Recent Developments in MICA Water-based Primer Technology"	TPT International, Inc.
September 20 (10:30 a.m.)	"Raxson Ink Dispensing Systems: Management & Cost Control Aspects"	TPT International, Inc.
September 20 (1:30 p.m.)	"Plate Making & Du Pont Cyrel Technical Center Offering"	Du Ponts Far East Inc. Philippines
September 20 (3:30 p.m.)	"Basic Adhesion Technology with Sherman Treaters"	Colmar Trading Corporation
September 21 (10:30 a.m.)	"Latest Developments in Solventfree Lamination & Cold Seal Applications"	TPT International, Inc.
September 21 (1:30 p.m.)	Globis Presentation	Globis, Inc.
September 21 (3:30 p.m.)	Globis Presentation	Globis, Inc.

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IMF-WB review canceled

BY CLARISSA S. BATINO

THE INTERNATIONAL Monetary Fund and the World Bank have canceled a 10-day joint evaluation of the country's financial system in view of recent terrorist attacks on the United States.

Alberto Reyes, deputy governor of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, said a team of experts from the IMF and the World Bank were scheduled to review the Philippine financial system under the Financial Sector Assessment Program from Sept.15 to 24.

"The review was meant to look for vulnerabilities not only of the banking sector but also of the insurance, stock market, and the rest of the financial system. It is aimed at coming up with recommendations to address these vulnerabilities," said Reyes.

Introduced in May 1999, the assessment program was designed to help member-countries strengthen their financial systems. More specifically, it was meant to identify strengths and weaknesses, and determine how key resources are being managed.

Findings from the initial review held in the light of the Asian financial crisis became the basis of the reforms drawn for the banking sector. The IMF-World Bank assessment served as a foundation for the General Banking Law of 2000.

The amended banking law, among other, opened up the commercial banking sector to foreign banks.

However, Reyes said more reforms have yet to be completed including the strengthening of the power of the BSP and the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corp.

The BSP official noted that the review program might be rescheduled in the coming weeks although the IMF and the World Bank have yet to decide on the new dates.

Republic of the Philippines
Office of the President

TOLL REGULATORY BOARD

NOTICE

Re: Intention and Proposals to Construct a Temporary Entry/Exit at km 72 + 172 northbound, Mexico, Pampanga, along the North Luzon Tollway

Central Country Estate. Inc. formally submitted its intention and proposals to construct the above mentioned Temporary Entry/Exit at km 72 + 172 northbound, North Luzon Tollway.

This notice is being published in compliance with the requirements of the Toll Regulatory Board for the Grant of Permit for the Construction of a Temporary Entry/Exit along Tollway facilities.

(Sgd) JAIME S. DUMLAO, SR.
Executive Director

Digitel sees boom in Internet business

BY DORIS C. DUMLAO

DIGITEL Information Technology Services Inc. (DigitelOne), the Internet unit of the Gokongwei group's Digital Telecommunications Inc., is expecting to sustain a three-fold growth in the Internet business in the next few years.

In a press briefing held after the signing of a new contract with Accenture, provider of management and technology consulting services and solutions, JG Summit EVP Lance Gokongwei said the data business in the country would continue to be competitive.

DigitelOne has seen triple growth in the last few years coming from a small base. We're expecting this growth to continue in the next few years," he said.

On Thursday, DigitelOne bagged a contract to provide Internet access to Accenture. It calls for the provision of a dedicated 1.024 Mbps (megabytes per second) data stream and a guaranteed connection to the US Internet backbone of UUNET

Eventually, DigitelOne will also provide Accenture access to the world's largest IP (Internet protocol)–based fiber optic network via its joint venture with Asia Global Crossing.

"This will result in an unparalleled performance, redundancy and reliability that will allow Accenture to interact and communicate with their existing customers and other branches on a global scale," DigitelOne managing director Brian Go said.

DigitelOne's data communications solutions allow companies here and abroad to share information using high-speed and high-capacity networks. The company offers 24-hour leased lines that can transmit voice and data, including videos, at up to two megabytes per second without the need to put up offices and equipment in remote locations.

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Mr. Nigel Mayne, Worldsites President

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GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

WANTED TO BUY

Buy/Pawn Diamonds T834-2886

WE BUY ROLEX
5633742 5646593 09174383744

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FROZEN TUNA 7151193

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Domestic Helper Dressmaker Int'l Cook •5623962•

ELEM. ENGLISH T/CHER 2928592

MAIDS DIRECT HIRE 7284971

MALE/FEMALE

•8 ofc Staff 9160033 Arlene

Adm Staff 9134470 Adonis

CARE GIVER T5280722

Direct Hire Ofc Staff
9134470 Start ASAP Ms. Fe

OFC STAFF 8814843 Camil

S.P. NURSE CONT. ZENY ACUNA 7337553

PUBLIC NOTICES

AUCTION SALE

C.Y. Lopez Pawnshop Inc. #602 JP RIZAL ST.,MAKATI CITY; #15 GEN. SANTOS AVE., LOWER BICUTAN, TAGUIG; REAL ST. ALMANZA UNO LAS PINAS CITY will hold an Auction Sale on •SEPT. 22, 2001 • at 9:00A.M. including all unredeemed items pawned up to April 2001
V.Zamora Jr. Lic. Auctioneer

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Please join Gina Pruhenski and Yvette Dobruck at:

The Hyatt Regency Manila
2702 Roxas Boulevard
Pasay City
Metro Manila
Monday, September 17th through Friday, September 21st
10:00am - 6:00pm

or by appointment
Monday, September 24th through Wednesday, September 26th

Contact us at 63 2 833 1234 to schedule an appointment.

National Health Care Associates Inc.

PUBLIC NOTICES

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NOTICE OF LOSS

Notice is hereby given that the ff: Official Receipts of SKY-CABLE series #90980-90100 were lost. Any transaction covered by the said O.R. will not be honored. (PDI-9/15, 16, 22 & 23,2001)

NOTICE OF LOSS DDB-S2 ID OF GENA G. GELLANGALA, MD ID#19043N00

PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late NELLIE M. VILLAROJO was extrajudicially settled among her heirs per Doc. 59, Book I, Page 14, Series of 2001 Notary Public Lilia B. Pilares-De Vera
(PDI-Sept. 1, 8 & 15, 2001)

Notice is hereby given that the estates of the late JOSE CRUZ MEDINA who died in March 6, 1973 and ADELAIDA CUENCA MEDINA who died on January 3, 1990 which estates consist of various parcels of land have been the subject of an extrajudicial settlement on September 12, 2001, by and among their heirs as evidenced in the document executed and acknowledged before Notary Public Gina C. Garcia of Makati City, and entered in her Notarial Registry as Doc.#322, Page #63, Book III, Series of 2001. (PDI, Sept. 15, 22 & 29, 2001)

PERSONAL

PRAYER TO ST. ANTHONY
O Holy St. Anthony, gentlest of Saints, your love for God and charity for His creatures, made you worthy, when on earth, to possess miraculous powers. Miracles waited on your word, which you were ever ready to speak for those in trouble or anxiety. Encouraged by this thought, I implore of you to obtain for me (request). The answer to my prayer may require a miracle, even so, you are the Saint of Miracles. O gentle and loving St. Anthony, whose heart was ever full of human sympathy, whisper my petition into the ears of the Sweet Infant Jesus, who loved to be folded in your arms; and the gratitude of my heart will ever be yours. (Thank you very much for the graces.)

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
NATIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY

NOTICE OF DISPOSITION

The National Housing Authority is inviting offers to purchase/lease by way of sealed bids the following commercial/ industrial properties on an "As Is - Where Is" basis.

I. SECOND TENDER

ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	BASE PRICE/SQM	TERMS
001-052	62 lots, 170 to 298 sqm. With TCTs	Brgy. Pandacaqui, Mexico, Pampanga	PhP 1,500.00 to PhP 1,656.00	CASH
063	1 lot, 1,288 sqm. With TCT	Bagong Nayon II Sites & Services Proj. Antipolo City	PhP 5,000.00	CASH

II. FIRST TENDER

ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	BASE PRICE/SQM	TERMS
064	1 lot, 1.5 hectares	Vitas, Tondo Manila	PhP 16,000.00	CASH OR INSTALLMENT (5 yrs.@18% p.a.) CASH
065-074	10 lots, 140 to 10,995 sqm. With TCTs	Sapang Palay, San Jose Del Monte, Bulacan	PhP 525.00 to PhP 1,175.00	
075-080	6 lots, 190 to 232 sqm. With TCTs	Alijis, Bacolod	PhP 1,600.00	CASH
081	1 lot, 300 sqm. & Bldg, 300 sqm.	Puntod Macabalan Cagayan de Oro	Lot - PhP 8,267.50 Bldg-PhP 10,756.25 (monthly lease)	LEASE-15 yrs. (Advance annual lease)

Interested parties may purchase one/any or all of the lots and lease the lot & building offered, details of which may be secured for a non-refundable fee of PhP200.00 from the COINBAC c/o CIED, Mezzanine Floor, NHA Building, Diliman, Quezon City. For Pampanga, Bacolod and Cagayan de Oro properties, bidding materials are available in the respective Project Offices. For inquiry, please call Evelyn V. Ramos or Neri A. Subido at the ff. tel. nos.: 923-0390, 922-3001 & 928-4561 Loc. 302-303.

SCHEDULE	ALL PROPERTIES (Except Bacolod & Cagayan de Oro)	ALIJIS, BACOLOD	CAGAYAN DE ORO
A. Submission of Pre-Qualification Requirements	Sept. 10-24, '01 until 5 p.m. CIED, Mezzanine Flr., NHA Bldg.	Oct. 1- 18, '01 until 5 p.m. NHA Bacolod Project Office Union Bank Bldg. 3rd Flr., Cor. Araneta & Rosario Streets	Oct. 22 to Nov. 8, '01 until 5 p.m. NHA Cagayan de Oro Project Office Don Julio Pacana St. Puntod Macabalan
B. Pre-Bid Conference	Sept. 19, '01 10:00 a.m. Operations Center 3rd Flr., NHA bldg.	Oct. 17, '01 2:00 p.m. NHA Bacolod Project Office	Nov. 7, '01 2:00 p.m. NHA Cagayan de Oro Project Office
C. Submission of Sealed Bids	Sept. 26, '01 up to 12 noon Operations Center	Oct. 19, '01 up to 12 noon NHA Bacolod Project Office	Nov. 9, '01 up to 12 noon NHA Cagayan de Oro Project Office
D. Opening of Bids	Sept. 26, '01 1:30 p.m. Operations Center	Oct. 19, '01 2:00 p.m. NHA Bacolod Project Office	Nov. 9, '01 2:00 p.m. NHA Cagayan de Oro Project Office

The NHA reserves the right to reject any or all bid offers or any part thereof or to waive any required formalities and accept offers most advantageous to the interest of NHA.

(Sgd.) JOSEPH PETER S. SISON
Assistant General Manager & Chairman, COINBAC

(PDI-Sept. 8 & 15, 2001)

We are a growing Multinational Company engaged in direct sales of nutritional supplements and specialty food products who:

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For our soon-to-open branches in ALABANG, ORTIGAS, CEBU AND DAVAO

College Graduate, Computer Literate, Willing to be trained for One (1) month in Head Office.

Alabang/Ortigas - Preferably resident of the said areas.

Qualified applicants for Alabang and Ortigas will be interviewed in the Head Office

Cebu/Davao - Preferably resident of the said areas.

Qualified applicants for Cebu and Davao will be interviewed in Cebu and Davao respectively.

Please send your application letter and resumé with references and contact number to:

NUTRITIONAL SUPPLEMENTS
P.O. Box 1846
Makati Central Post Office
1258 Makati City

Attn: The Administrative & Operations Manager

EDPITAF

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IMPLEMENTING TASK FORCE

BULLETIN OF VACANT POSITIONS
(In compliance with RA 7041)

(1) Driver 1 - SG-3; Permanent; Item No. OSEC-DECSB-DRV1-28-1998; At least Elementary school graduate (presently employed in the government); experience and training not required; Eligibility: Driver's license.

(1) Mechanic III - SG-9; Contractual; High school graduate or completion of relevant vocational/trade course; one (1) year of relevant experience; four (4) hours of relevant training.

Qualified applicants must send their resumé, transcript of records, recent ID picture and other credentials to:

HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT OFFICE
DepEd - EDPITAF
Dorm-D, DepEd Complex
Meralco Avenue, Pasig City

Deadline for submission of application is on **September 28, 2001**.

NATIONAL POWER CORPORATION
161 Bonifacio Drive, Port Area, Manila
Tel. No. 527-4873, 527-4892 & 527-4880

INVITATION TO BID

GENCO 1 01-010 (PB)

DATE OF BIDDING — SEPTEMBER 28, 2001

0101-033	10 pcs. Foot Valve with Strainer, for Single-stage Centrifugal Pump and Motor, 50 mm pipe connections
0104-040-TES	1 job, Supply, Install and commission of one (1) set of TV and Flame Scanner Cooling Air Fan with DC Motor
0107-006-TES	9 sets Hydraulic Operating Cylinder and 1 lot S/P for installation of Hydraulic Operating Cylinder, S/P for Toshiba 230 KV Gas Circuit Breaker, Type GSR-200 PI
0108-020	74 pcs., Cartridge, for HP CI823A, tricolor, Inkjet Printer Cartridge for HP Deskjet 890C, large, black, HP51645A, Bundy Clock Ribbon, two color, for Amano Bundy Clock, Model EX6200 and Ribbon, for LQ 2170
0108-021	2 pcs., Fluid Coupling, twin disk fluid 12.4 HCM, Waldron 1 1/2 Flexalign
0108-049	195 pcs., Filter Bag, polyester, 127 mm dia. x 3 m, snap cuff, hemmed top, steel snap ring included for Secondary EPFA Silo LUHR Dust Collector
0109-009-TES	4 units, Fans, Heavy Duty Industrial Exhaust, propeller type, 36" blade dia., no. of blades 4, capacity 13,000 ft.^{3} of air/min., motor 480 VAC, 3-phase, 60 Hz including accessories
0109-010	30,000 kgs., Aluminum Sulfate, $Al_2(SO_4)$, $18H_2O$, 50 kgs/ bag, Technical Grade, powder or crystalline, color white to dirty white
0109-011	900 pcs., Incandescent Lamp, medium screw base, 200 watts, 230 V, 60 Hz and standard base, 100 watts, 220 V, Fluorescent Lamp, b-pin base, 40 watts, 230 V, 60 Hz, 36 pcs/box and SL Prismatic Lamp, cost saving, compact fluorescent lamps, type SL 25P, 25 watts, 230 V, 60 Hz
0109-012	15 pcs., Flexible Hose, SS 316, double wire braided, male and female end connection, size 75 mmØ OD x 3 ft. length and both female end connection, size 20.3 mmØ OD x 44.5 cm length

Bid documents will be available to accredited suppliers starting **September 17, 2001** and may be secured from Administration Division during working days from 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM upon payment of P 25.00 for ONE ENVELOPE SYSTEM and P 50.00 for TWO-ENVELOPE SYSTEM.

Bids must be in triplicate and shall be accompanied by Bidder's Bond equivalent to 5% of the total bid price either in Cash, Manager's Check, Irrevocable LC, Bank Draft/Guarantee or Surety Bond from GSIS Insurance Commission.

The corporation reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any defect or informality contained therein and accept the bids considered most advantageous to the corporation.

(Sgd.) **LORNA T. DY**
Manager
Professional Services Department

(PDI – Sept. 15, 2001)

UNDP
PHILIPPINES

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

Contracting of Consulting Services for the Project

"Enhancing the Public Accountability Programme of the Philippine Commission on Audit: Government-Wide and Sectoral Performance/VFM Audit" (PHI/97/022)

The Development Support Services Center (DSSC) of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) invites local and international consultants to apply for eligibility and to bid for the "Enhancing the Public Accountability Programme of the Philippine Commission on Audit: Government-Wide and Sectoral Performance/ VFM Audit" (PHI/97/022).

This project is under the auspices of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) with contribution from the Government of Australia. It aims to provide assistance to the Philippine Commission on Audit (COA) in its effort to enhance its capability to undertake government-wide and sectoral performance/value for money (VFM) audit.

The project requires the services of a consulting firm to conduct a comprehensive review of existing policies on VFM and the manner in which this approach is currently being implemented. The services will also include developing and/or introducing amendments to existing audit policies, guidelines and strategies.

Bid Documents (Requirements for Eligibility, Instructions to Bidders and Terms of Reference) may be secured personally or electronically, upon official inquiry/request from interested parties, from the following address:

Development Support Services Center
United Nations Development Programme
7th Floor NEDA sa Makati Building
106 Amorsolo Street, Legaspi Village, Makati City (via courier)
Tel. No. (632) 892 06 11 loc. 275
Fax No. (632) 816 40 61
E-mail address: bc_admin.ph@undp.org

The abovementioned Bid Documents will be released to all interested parties starting **September 15, 2001** to **September 22, 2001** only. The Bid Documents shall contain all instructions on the rules, procedures, bid opening dates and other schedules.

UNDP reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any defect or informality therein, accept the bid and award the contract to the most advantageous offer to the UNDP, for an in behalf of the Commission on Audit. UNDP assumes no responsibility to compensate or indemnify the bidder for any expense or loss that may be incurred for the preparation of bids, nor does it guarantee that an award will be made.

(Sgd.) ETHELIND B. CAPUNO
Manager, DSSC

(PDI -- Sept. 14 & 15, 2001)

NOTICE TO DEPOSITORS OF THE CLOSED RURAL BANK OF ORION (Bataan), INC.

1. Starting September 18, 2001, the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation (PDIC) thru its duly authorized representatives shall receive claims for insured deposits maintained with the closed **Rural Bank of Orion (Bataan), Inc.**
2. Depositors are requested to proceed directly to the premises of the closed bank from September 18 to October 15, 2001, Mondays thru Fridays, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, where PDIC representatives are stationed to accept claims and entertain queries of depositors.

   After October 15, 2001, all depositors can file their claims personally or thru mail at the PDIC located at 2228 Chino Roces Avenue, Makati City, Mondays thru Fridays, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.
3. Depositors are advised to present the following requirements to our representatives when filing their claims:
   a. Original evidence of deposit such as Savings Passbook and or Certificate of Time Deposit; and
   b. Latest identification document (ID) bearing the depositor's signature

   Other documents may be required by our representatives in the course of their processing of claims filed.
4. Pursuant to the provisions of R.A. 3591 as amended by R.A. 7400, the prescriptive date (last day) for filing of claims for insured deposits in the closed Rural Bank of Orion (Bataan), Inc. is on December 10, 2002. After December 10, 2002, PDIC as insurer, shall no longer accept any claim for insured deposits maintained with the said closed bank.

PHILIPPINE DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

(PDI -- Sept. 15 & 17, 2001)

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dti
DEPARTMENT OF TRADE & INDUSTRY
PHILIPPINES

INVITATION TO QUALIFY AND BID

The Bids and Awards Committee for Information Technology Resources of the **Web-Enabled Business Name Registration System Project** (WEBNRSP) invites IT solution provider companies to bid for the development and installation of a web-enabled business name registration.

Bid documents may be obtained from the Bureau of Trade Regulation and Consumer Protection c/o Atty. Ruth U. Tan at the 2/F DTI Building, 361 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City, during regular office hours (8:00 AM to 5:00 PM) on **September 17-21, 2001.** Deadline of **Submission of Qualification Requirements is on September 24, 2001**, 8:00 AM to 12:00 noon.

A pre-bid conference for qualified bidders will be held on **October 2, 2001, Tuesday, 2:00 PM** at the Round Table Conference Room, 6/F DTI Building, same address above cited.

The BAC-ITR reserves the right to reject any or all bids without assuming any obligation whatsoever to offset expenses or losses the bidder may incur in the preparation of its bids, and will entertain only such bid/s established to be most advantageous to the Government.

(Sgd.) **TOBY MELISSA C. MONSOD**
Chair, BAC-ITR for WEBNRSP

(PDI--Sept. 15 & 16, 2001)

Republika ng Pilipinas
PAMBANSANG KORPORASYON SA ELEKTRISIDAD
(NATIONAL POWER CORPORATION)

INVITATION TO PREQUALIFY AND TO BID
SLRC-2001-10A

The Southern Luzon Regional Center (SLRC), NPC wishes to invite interested parties to prequalify and to bid on the items listed below:

SCHEDULE		ITEM DESCRIPTION	PR NUMBER
		DATE OF BIDDING: OCTOBER 1, 2001; 2:00 PM	
A1	1 LOT	AUTOMOTIVE SPARE PARTS (3ADM01-181/0179/180)	3ADM01
A2	1 LOT	FAX MACHINE, PRINT CARTRIDGE	3ADM01-183
A3	1 LOT	OFFICE SUPPLIES	3ADM01-182
A4	1 SET	STEEL GATE	3ADM01-178
A5	12 PCS	OIL FILTER ELEMENT	3BAC01-216
A6	1 PC	ELECTRODE	3BAC01-224
		DATE OF BIDDING: OCTOBER 2, 2001; 2:00 PM	
B1	140 PCS	WOOD POLES	3PTG01-038
B2	3 PCS	VALVE, REGULATOR	3BAC01-622
B3	6 UNITS	PLAIN TROLLEY, LIFTING HOIST	3BAC01-312
B4	5 PCS	ALARM CONTROL, CONTROLLING DEVICE	3BAC01-132
B5	1 UNIT	FLOWMETER	3BAC01-607
B6	2 UNITS	SOUND METER, CALIBRATOR	3BAC01-523

Complete sets of bidding documents and other particulars may be obtained from the Office of the Manager, Administration Division, SLRC, San Vicente, Biñan, Laguna, upon payment of a non-refundable fees of P25.00 and P50.00 per schedule for single and two envelope, respectively starting **September 18, 2001.** No bid documents will be issued on the date of bidding.

Non-accredited suppliers can get prequalification papers and submit the same for evaluation not later than **September 24, 2001** before they are allowed to bid.

Only those prequalified shall be allowed to participate in the bidding. Bids will be received at the SLRC Bidding Room, NPC-SLRC, San Vicente, Biñan, Laguna until 2:00 o'clock PM on the dates specified above after which said bids will be opened in the presence of attending bidders.

All bids regardless of price offer must be accompanied by Bidder's Bond in Cash or Certified Manager's/Cashier's Check, or a GSIS Surety Bond equivalent to five percent (5%) of the total bid price.

The NPC-SLRC reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, and to annul the bidding process and reject all bids at anytime prior to award of contract, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders or any obligations to inform the affected bidder or bidders of the grounds for the NPC-SLRC's action.

(Sgd.) **R.D. RAMAS**
Manager, Administration

(PDI – Sept. 15, 2001)

National Power Corporation
Generation Company 1
161 Bonifacio Drive, Port Area, Manila 1018
GENCO-1

INVITATION TO PREQUALIFY AND TO BID
(PQ0900RCC-016)

The GENCO-1 Regional Contract Committee (RCC) is inviting Contractors to prequalify and to bid for the **SUPPLY OF MANPOWER SERVICES, SKILLED AND SEMI-SKILLED, UNSKILLED AND CLERICAL SUPPORT FOR THE OVERHAULING, REHABILITATION, MAINTENANCE AND OFFICE REQUIREMENT OF GENCO-1 OFFICES, PLANTS AND FACILITIES.**

Application for prequalification is open to all Filipino contracting firms with at least one (1) year minimum experience similar/related to the above requirement with valid DTI/ SEC certificate. Applicant must be able to prove his Experience, Technical and Financial capacity to perform the works/services called for.

Prequalification Forms shall be available for issuance starting **September 17-28, 2001** at the Contracts Management Office (CMO), Third Floor, NPC GENCO-1 Building, 161 Bonifacio Drive, Port Area, Manila. Applicants shall be issued Prequalification Form upon presentation of original copy of the applicant's DTI and/or SEC Certificate, together with the Letter of Intent and payment of a non-refundable fee of **FIVE HUNDRED PESOS (P500.00)** per copy.

For purposes of prequalification and bidding activities, the following schedule will be observed:

- Submission of Prequalification Documents - October 3, 2001
- Issuance of Bid Documents - October 17, 2001
- Pre-bid Conference - October 19, 2001
- Submission and Opening of Bids - October 26, 2001

The NPC reserves the right to reject any or all bids without offering any reason, waive any required formality therein and to make an award to the bidder whose proposal is the most advantageous to the Corporation. The NPC assumes no obligations to compensate or indemnify the bidder for any expenses or loss that may be incurred in the preparations of bids, nor does it guarantee that an award will be made.

(Sgd.) **LORNA T. DY**
Manager, Professional Services Department
and Chairman, RCC

(PDI – Sept. 15, 20 & 24, 2001)

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sbma
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
SUBIC BAY METROPOLITAN AUTHORITY
Subic Bay Freeport Zone, Philippines

Invitation for Bids

Date : September 12, 2001
World Bank Loan/Credit No. : 4111 PH

1. The Government of the Republic of the Philippines through the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority ("SBMA") has received a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, towards the cost of the Second Subic Bay Freeport Project, and intends to apply part of the funds to cover eligible payments under the Contract for the Perimeter Security Fence and All-Weather Service Road Project. Bidding is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the Guidelines Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits published in January 1995, revised January and August 1996, September 1997 and January 1999.
2. The SBMA invites sealed bids from eligible bidders, for the 19-month duration of the contract (7 months construction period plus 12 months Defects Liability Period) for the Perimeter Security Fence and All-Weather Service Road Project, to undertake among others the repair and rehabilitation of existing fence and drainage structures; repair, rehabilitation and widening of existing asphalt road and construction of new Jadjad bridge, physical fence and new one-lane service road.

   The minimum **post qualification** requirements include:
   (a) The minimum required annual volume of construction work for the successful bidder in any of the last five years shall be PhP 400,000,000.00 or equivalent.
   (b) Experience as prime contractor in the construction of at least two works of a nature and complexity equivalent to the Works over the last 10 years.
   (c) The bidder must show evidence that he owns or has access to (through hire, lease, purchase agreement or other means) the following essential equipment to be made available for the contract: concrete batching plant, concrete transit mixer, asphalt plant, truck mounted concrete pump, motorized grader, vibratory roller, dump truck, wheel loader, truck mounted crane-hydraulic telescopic boom, asphalt distributor, asphalt paver and bulldozer.
   (d) Must have the necessary Financial Reports for each year for the last five (5) years including balance sheets, profit and loss statements and auditor's reports showing a sound financial position.
3. Bidding documents are available for collection from Monday, **17th September 2001:**

   Building 222, Dewey Avenue
   Subic Bay Freeport Zone

   upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Php 20,000.00 or US$400.00 at the:

   Treasury Department
   Building 229, Waterfront Road
   Subic Bay Freeport Zone

   An additional amount of US$ 50.00 will be charged to overseas contractors who wish to obtain their documents by courier. The SBMA will promptly dispatch the documents by courier but under no circumstances will SBMA be responsible for late deliveries or loss of the documents so mailed.

   Interested bidders may obtain further information at the office of the:

   Project Manager
   Building 222, Dewey Avenue
   SBFZ, Olongapo City
   Tel. No. (047) 252-45-43
   Fax No. (047) 252-45-44
4. Bids shall be valid for a period of 120 days after Bid opening and must be accompanied by a bid security of not less than PhP 4,800,000.00 currency, and shall be delivered to the address below on or before 2:00 PM of **October 31, 2001** after which time the bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders who wish to attend.

   PPMD Conference Room
   Building 255, Barryman Road, SBFZ
5. A pre-bid conference will be held on **September 27, 2001** at 2:00 PM at the Conference Room of Bldg. 222, Dewey Avenue, Subic Bay Freeport Zone.

(Sgd.) **CHITO M. CRUZ**
Sr. D.A. for Support Services and PBAC Chairman

(PDI – Sept. 15, 16 & 17, 2001)

Asian markets in limbo ahead of New York bourse reopening

HONG KONG—Major Asian markets were in limbo yesterday with investors unwilling to take action ahead of the expected reopening of Wall Street next week following the terrorist attacks in the United States, dealers said.

However, strong selling pressure continued in some regional markets due to fears of the military and economic repercussions of the attacks, which devastated the financial heart of New York.

Tokyo stocks continued to claw their way back after hitting a new 17-year low Thursday as investors hunted bargains, heartened by a recovery in European stocks, brokers said.

The Nikkei average of 225 leading issues on the Tokyo Stock Exchange closed the morning session up 91.09 points or 0.9 percent at 9,704.18.

"The Tokyo market took heart from gains in German and British share prices for the second straight day. It was also encouraged by plans to reopen the New York Stock Exchange on Monday," said Nikko Securities product manager Hiroichi Nishi.

"Resistance is emerging against further declines and share prices are higher almost across the board," he said.

However, fears about what will happen to US markets when they reopen next Monday kept traders cautious and contributed to minor falls in Hong Kong and Sydney.

Hong Kong share prices shed 48.66 points, or 0.5 percent, to close the morning at 9,520.55. The Hang Seng index closed below the key 10,000 mark for the first time in two and a half years on Wednesday in the wake of the attacks.

Australian stocks slid 36.90 points to 3,052.50 in late afternoon trading.

Seoul's composite index was 24.06 points lower at 475.19 in afternoon trade.

Singapore also closed the morning sharply lower, with the key Strait Times index falling 43.50 points to 1,395.17, breaching the key support level at 1,400 level for the first time since February 1999.

"We were big sellers a day after the attacks on the US. Whoever was selling this morning was delayed in their reaction. But, whoever they are, I don't blame them," a dealer at a regional brokerage said adding that exporters bore the brunt of the selling.

Asian markets slumped in early share trading yesterday amid uncertainties about the global economy following the US terrorist attacks.

By late morning, the only regional market resisting the slide was Tokyo's. Virtually every other Asian one had fallen, with Taiwan, Singapore and South Korea's key indexes plunging by more than 3 percent.

"Basically, there are only two variables we're waiting for," said Alfred Park, chief strategist at Tongyang Securities. "The opening of the US markets and the US retaliation" for the suicide attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon on Tuesday.

The markets will require some time to "know the full scale of the financial impact" from the attacks and whether US companies that did business in the World Trade Center can recover, said Wong Keng Siong, a Singapore-based economist with Dai-ichi Kangyo Bank.

"If you suffer a massive loss in your manpower, even if you have a disaster recovery plan, how are you going to implement it?" Wong said of companies like Morgan Stanley and others with offices demolished in the attack at the heart of Manhattan's financial center.

US forces are expected to eventually attack terrorist cells that were responsible for the destruction in the United States, and a key suspect is alleged terrorist mastermind Osama bin Laden, who is based in Afghanistan.

European shares advanced overnight. The FTSE 100 index of leading British shares closed up 1.3 percent at 4,943.6, while Frankfurt's Xetra DAX rose 1.3 percent to 4,392.40. In Paris, the CAC40 index slipped 0.01 percent to 4,113.87.

Japan's finance minister, Masajuro Shiokawa, sought to reassure investors, saying that the Bank of Japan was aware of what it needs to do at a policy board meeting next week. His comments were taken to mean he expects the central bank to ease monetary policy.

The bank has already provided about 2 trillion yen ($16.8 billion) in extra support to help prop up the market, market data indicted.

But elsewhere, the price tag for the devastation on Wall Street was beginning to be tallied. Several Thai firms said they would delay initial public offerings over the next three months. Taiwan shares plunged 3.42 percent in early trading Friday on selling of transportation and electronics—industries expected to suffer in the attacks' aftermath.

A local report said firms at Taiwan's biggest science park had millions of dollars worth of exports piled up in warehouses.

South Korean shares tumbled 4.1 percent in early trading, while share prices also fell in Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, New Zealand and the Philippines.

Hong Kong's key Hang Seng index rose after opening but then slipped. By late morning, it had fallen 31.49 points, or 0.33 percent, to 9,537.72. *AFP, AP*

Wall Street aims to reopen Monday

NEW YORK—Wall Street promised to reopen for business Monday morning even as thousands of utility workers raced to restore communications and power to the city's devastated financial district.

Some experts were skeptical of the plan announced yesterday, however, given the logistics of getting the stock markets up and running because of the extensive physical—and psychological—damage caused by the terrorist attack.

"It's going to be a long weekend, but they'll probably be limping along on Monday," said Dave Farber, a professor of telecommunications at the University of Pennsylvania.

The New York Stock Exchange, Nasdaq Stock Market, American Stock Exchange and other members of the trading community planned extensive testing Saturday to make sure systems would work.

"The right thing to do for America and certainly for those who are in the midst of this great tragedy . . . is to resume trading," New York Stock Exchange chair Richard Grasso said at a news conference. "We are very confident we will have the right number of people on campus here and in the community required to bring up the world's most admired markets."

While the stock markets remained closed for the third straight day yesterday, some trading involving government bonds and commodities took place as both the Chicago Board of Trade and Chicago Mercantile Exchange reopened.

Although neither the NYSE, Nasdaq nor Amex's trading abilities were directly harmed by the attack and most big financial firms have backup facilities from which they can do business, extensive logistical facilities have been reported missing in the wake of the World Trade Center's destruction.

Nevertheless, restoring confidence in the country's financial system means reopening the symbolic trading floors at the New York Stock Exchange.

The US Securities and Exchange Commission plans to set up hot lines to help answer individual investors' questions and address trading-related complaints.

SEC chair Harvey Pitt, who was also at the news conference, praised the decision to wait until Monday. The market's closure marks the longest since the Crash of '29, but he appeared to have no regrets.

"Had we reached a decision to open on Friday, which I think could have been justified perhaps, some of the testing would have been done live," he said. "This is a positive development and should give investors even more confidence." *AP*

GRASSO: "The right thing to do for America and certainly for those who are in the midst of this great tragedy is to resume trading."

TREASURY ASSESSMENT

US prospects still bright

WASHINGTON—The Federal Reserve announced yesterday that $50 billion would be made available to European banks to help them meet emergency withdrawal needs, while the US administration proclaimed prospects still bright for an economic rebound.

Trying to bolster confidence in the wake of the worst terrorist attacks in US history, Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill insisted that the adverse economic impact would likely be short-lived as transportation gets back to normal with the resumption of airline flights.

"We have every reason to maintain our confidence in the US economy," O'Neill said. "The prospects for a rebound in the US economy remain unchanged."

O'Neill expressed satisfaction with how the banking system has been operating after Tuesday's attacks and with the resumption of trading in Treasury bonds yesterday, which he called "an important step on the way back to full market operations."

In an effort to prevent the attacks from derailing the global economy, the Fed said it would make up to $50 billion available to European banks with subsidiaries in the United States. Dollars will be exchanged for euros, the new currency for 12 European countries.

While officials announced that the stock markets would remain closed until Monday—the longest period stock trading has been shut down since the Great Depression—they insisted that their monitoring of operations at US banks and the global financial system showed few problems following the terrorist attacks at the World Trade Center in New York.

"We've suffered, as you know, quite a blow. But I think the financial systems have proven themselves quite resilient," Federal Reserve Vice Chair Roger Ferguson told reporters.

Private economists have expressed concerns that the terrorist attacks could push the US economy, which has been struggling with weak economic growth for more than a year, into a full-blown recession.

The Fed also announced it had relocated its New York Fed operations to East Rutherford, New Jersey, after New York city authorities expressed concerns about possible structural problems at the New York Fed building, a landmark in the city's financial district, which was located only a few blocks from the destroyed World Trade Center towers.

The Fed's decision to make $50 billion available to European banks followed Wednesday's joint statement from the world's seven richest countries, pledging that their central banks would coordinate activities to make sure emergency withdrawals did not destabilize any of their banking systems.

Private economists predicted the Fed's efforts to supply additional money to banks would soon be followed by further interest rate cuts, possibly before the next Fed meeting on Oct. 2. *AP*

Oil prices back at pre-US attacks level

LONDON—Oil prices held steady yesterday around $28 a barrel—close to levels that prevailed before Tuesday's terrorist attacks on New York and Washington.

A barrel of Brent North crude for October delivery was selling for $28 in late trade, against $28.02 overnight. The US market remained closed on Wednesday.

Prices have now given back most of the $4 gain racked up on Tuesday in a frantic reaction to the hijacked aircraft strikes on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

Analysts said the reason for this was that traders were increasingly discounting the possibility of a major supply disruption resulting from US retaliation to the strikes.

Some were instead factoring in dwindling prospects for world demand.

Demand was already expected to come under pressure this year, as the global economy slows down sharply. That situation is now expected to be aggravated as a result of the chaos on Wall Street, which is expected to tilt the US economy ever closer to recession.

"People are a little worried that a recession in the world could reduce demand for oil," said Christopher Bellew, a dealer with the Prudential Bache brokerage.

One immediate impact on demand involves airlines, which have had to cancel thousands of flights following the US chaos, meaning a sharp slump in demand for aircraft fuel.

"Short-term demand will be going down because of the lack of airlihe flights," noted Peter Gignoux, an oil expert at Salomon Smith Barney. "I think the market will work lower." *AFP*

World financial community closes ranks

(From page B1)

de Previsions Economiques (BIPE), said the attacks would have a major negative impact on US and world economic growth.

US consumers, whose spending accounts for a significant chunk of US gross domestic product, are likely to be spooked, increasing the perception that the country was in for rocky economic times.

The firm forecast the US economy would shrink by 0.5 percent next year and pull the euro zone economy down to measly growth of 1.3 to 1.8 percent.

The European Central Bank, in concert with the US Federal Reserve, has been acting to inject liquidity into the market to calm fears. But, as Teather and Greenwood's Gould noted, "we were in a difficult market situation before the disaster in the US." The attacks on the world's financial hub and their aftermath may yet end up tipping much of the world into recession. *AFP*

Philippine Stock Exchange

(As of Friday, September 14, 2001)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES					
BANKS					
Bank of the Phil. Islands	58.5	58.5	58	58.5	786,500
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	29	30	29	29	109,900
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	209	209	206	209	19,440
Philippine National Bank	51	52	51	52	3,400
Rizal Comm. Banking Corp.	20	20	20	20	1,000
FINANCIAL SERVICE					
Filipino Fund Inc	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.32	40,000
First Metro Invest. Corp.	243	243	243	243	100
Manulife Financial Corp.	1200	1245	1200	1240	2,490
Sun Life Financial Serv.	1000	1020	995	995	3,020
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL					
COMMUNICATION					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	30	30	30	30	1,800
Digital Telecom Phils Inc.	0.45	0.45	0.44	0.44	640,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	640	650	635	650	63,970
Island Info and Tech Inc.	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	1,000,000
Liberty Telecoms Holdings	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	1,640,000
Manila Bulletin Pub. Corp.	3	3	3	3	30,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	500	505	495	500	160,320
Ivantage Corp.	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	100,000
Philweb.Com Inc.	0.027	0.027	0.026	0.027	18,700,000
POWER & ENERGY					
Manila Electric Co. A	30	30.5	30	30.5	32,500
Manila Electric Co. B	43	43.5	43	43	321,500
Petron Corp.	1.64	1.68	1.58	1.58	2,706,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Asian Terminals Inc.	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	30,000
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	1.92	1.92	1.88	1.88	792,000
Keppel Phils. Marine Inc.	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	30,000
CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS					
Engineering Equip. Inc.	0.3	0.31	0.3	0.31	140,000
Republic Cement Corp.	1.1	1.5	1.1	1.5	435,000
Republic Glass Hldg. Corp.	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	50,000
Union Cement Corp.	1.16	1.18	1.16	1.18	205,000
FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO					
Cosmos Bottling Corp.	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.5	1,060,000
Jollibee Foods Corp.	13	13	12.75	12.75	18,000
La Tondena Distillers Inc.	26	26	25.5	25.5	28,300
RFM Corp.	2.12	2.12	2.06	2.06	1,865,000
San Miguel Corp. A	39.5	40	39	40	199,800
San Miguel Corp. B	53.5	53.5	50.5	51.5	208,200
HOLDING FIRMS					
Ayala Corp.	6.1	6.2	6.1	6.1	940,000
Aboitiz Equity Ventures	1.5	1.52	1.5	1.5	843,000
Ajo.Net Holdings Inc.	0.82	0.82	0.79	0.81	970,000
A. Soriano Corp.	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	50,000
Alcorn Gold Res. Corp.	0.0075	0.0075	0.0075	0.0075	16,000,000
Anglo Phil Holdings Corp.	0.31	0.44	0.31	0.44	2,660,000
Benpres Holdings Corp.	1.44	1.48	1.38	1.4	4,127,000
Southeast Asian Cement	0.115	0.115	0.115	0.115	100,000
DMCI Holdings Inc.	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	100,000
Ebecom Holdings Inc.	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	800,000
Filinvest Dev. Corp.	0.8	0.8	0.75	0.75	50,000
First Phil Hldgs Corp.	28	28	28	28	332,900
Forum Pacific Inc.	0.28	0.3	0.2	0.2	380,000
Global Equities Inc.	0.125	0.125	0.125	0.125	20,000
J.G. Summit Holdings Inc.	1.74	1.74	1.74	1.74	70,000
Marsteel Cons. Inc. B	0.014	0.014	0.014	0.014	1,400,000
Megaworld Corp.	0.65	0.67	0.65	0.67	1,130,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0.31	0.31	0.3	0.3	2,620,000
Music Corp.	0.92	0.93	0.92	0.93	240,000
Philtread Holdings Corp.	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4	5,000
Wellex Industries Inc.	0.22	0.25	0.18	0.23	560,000
Waterfront Phils. Inc.	0.24	0.27	0.24	0.27	230,000
MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING					
A Brown Company Inc.	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44	10,000
Matsushita Elec Phil Corp.	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	40,000
Mabuhay Vinyl Corp.	0.5	0.51	0.5	0.5	200,000
Picop Resources Inc.	0.0725	0.09	0.0725	0.08	5,000,000
Central Azucar Don Pedro	0.78	0.78	0.78	0.78	10,000
SPI Technologies Inc.	12	12	11.25	12	75,000
HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICE					
Belle Corp.	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	300,000
Fairmont Holdings Inc.	0.49	0.49	0.49	0.49	380,000
Leisure & Resorts Corp.	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.45	570,000
Premiere Ent. Prod. Inc.	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.19	50,000
BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS					
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp. (Pdr)	30	30	30	30	230,500
Cosmos Bottling Corp.-Pref	11	11	11	11	5,000
Globe Telecom Hldg (Pdr)	620	620	620	620	140
Omico Corp. Warrant	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.002	12,000,000
Philweb.Com Inc. -Warrants	0.009	0.0095	0.009	0.0095	40,000,000
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	4.7	4.7	4.65	4.65	3,013,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.29	0.29	0.29	0.29	1,200,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.24	500,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	1.86	1.86	1.84	1.84	2,618,000
Fil-Estate Land Inc.	0.22	0.22	0.21	0.21	200,000
Robinsons Land Corp.	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	20,000
SM Development Corp.	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	130,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.2	348,000
Universal Rightfield Prop	0.0525	0.0525	0.0525	0.0525	300,000
MINING					
Abra Mining & Industrial	0.0038	0.0038	0.0034	0.0034	27,000,000
Dizon Copper Silver Mines	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	5,000
Itogon-Suyoc Mines A	0.033	0.035	0.033	0.034	26,900,000
Lepanto Cons Mng. Co. A	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	10,000
Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co B	0.165	0.175	0.165	0.175	70,000
Omico Corp.	0.0034	0.0034	0.0032	0.0032	43,000,000
Philex Mining Corp. A	0.34	0.34	0.32	0.32	100,000
Philex Mining Corp. B	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35	250,000
OIL					
Imperial Res.	0.017	0.017	0.017	0.017	10,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. A	0.0036	0.0036	0.0036	0.0036	2,000,000

	SHARES	VALUE (P)
Banks & Fin Svc	965,850	59,655,630.00
Comm'l & Ind'l	123,009,530	210,660,875.00
PRO	8,329,000	21,768,960.00
Mining	97,335,000	1,312,950.00
OIL	12,000,000	177,200.00
GRAND TOTALS :	241,644,380	293,590,865.00

	AVERAGES
Banks & Fin Svc	515.14 DOWN 0.86
Comm'l & Ind'l	1,728.72 DOWN 10.18
PRO	490.08 UP 0.52
Mining	1,190.72 DOWN 25.26
OIL	1.44 UNCH 0.00
All Shares Index	690.86 UP 14.76
Composite	1,236.42 DOWN 7.34

NO. OF ADVANCES: 14; NO. OF DECLINES: 37; NO. OF UNCHANGED: 40;
NO. OF TRADED ISSUES: 91; NO. OF TRADES: 1,570

Currencies

Sept. 14, 2001

Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Foreign currency in US$	Foreign currency in Peso
United States	Dollar	1.097093	1.000000	51.2690
Japan	Yen	0.009231	0.008414	0.4314
United Kingdom	Pound	1.614591	1.471700	75.4526
Hong Kong	Dollar	0.140834	0.128370	6.5814
Switzerland	Franc	0.665671	0.606759	31.1079
Canada	Dollar	0.700436	0.638447	32.7325
Singapore	Dollar	0.631239	0.575374	29.4988
Australia	Dollar	0.564639	0.514668	26.3865
Bahrain	Dinar	2.910215	2.652661	135.9993
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.292558	0.266667	13.6718
Brunei	Dollar	0.629247	0.573559	29.4058
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000121	0.000110	0.0056
Thailand	Baht	0.024815	0.022619	1.1597
UAE	Dirham	0.298772	0.272331	13.9621
Korea	Won	0.000850	0.000775	0.0397
Euro	Euro	1.000000	0.911500	46.7317
Germany	Mark	0.511292	0.466043	23.8936
France	Franc	0.152450	0.138957	7.1242
Netherlands	Guilder	0.453781	0.413621	21.2059
Austria	Schilling	0.072673	0.066241	3.3961
Belgium	Franc	0.024789	0.022595	1.1584
Italy	Lire	0.000517	0.000471	0.0241
Finland	Markka	0.168188	0.153303	7.8597
Portugal	Escudo	0.004988	0.004547	0.2331
Spain	Peseta	0.006010	0.005478	0.2809
Luxemburg	Franc	0.024789	0.022595	1.1584
Ireland	Punt	1.269738	1.157366	59.3370

Stocks drift lower

(From page B1)

Trades totaled P292.6 million, after touching a seven-year low of P183.94 million on Thursday.

"People are trying to anticipate what might happen when New York opens again on Monday . . . most people are staying on the sidelines while they await this," Eagle Equities president Joey Roxas said.

He said there were some indications the negative reaction expected on Wall Street would not be as acute as previously feared as people would have had several days to digest the events of the past week.

In addition, traders said there were hopes the US Federal Reserve may cut interest rates ahead of their scheduled Oct. 2 meeting, in order to breathe life into the financial system.

The main index in Manila closed down 7.34 points, or 0.59 percent, at 1,236.42, its lowest closing level since Oct. 7, 1998, when it finished at 1,212.75.

The index was off 60.93 points, or 4.6 percent, since last Friday. *Reuters*

X-type seen to boost Jaguar sales in RP

BY GIL C. CABACUNGAN JR.

BRITISH luxury carmaker Jaguar is forecasting sales of 100 to 150 units a year for its entry-level, X-type model that it expects to give stiff competition to its European rivals Mercedes Benz, BMW, Audi and Volvo.

Jaguar Cars Inc. president Wellington Soong said Jaguar has opted to take a different route in boosting sales in the country by introducing the new Jaguar X-type in the Philippines with a lower engine size—SE 2.5-liter models—than the standard 3-liter models.

"We've brought in a lower engine size to make it affordable to a broader base of clients. We would have paid twice the duties on these units if we brought in models with bigger engines," Soong said.

With a sticker price of P2.75 million, Soong is optimistic that buyers of luxury cars in the 25- to 35-year age range would prefer to buy a Jaguar than other European luxury cars. The 2.5-liter segment of the luxury car market currently has an annual turnover of 600 units with BMW and Volvo as the top two players.

This is part of Jaguar's global strategy of introducing the premium brand to a broader market range and creating a whole new generation of customers.

Even with the political crisis and economic slump, Soong said Jaguar Cars was able to jack up sales last year by 40 percent from last year's level. Nearly 90 percent of its sales were S-type units.

Soong said the X-type 2.5 was the "cheapest" Jaguar model in the market considering that that the S-type's launch price was P3.85 million (it is now sold at P4.65 million) in 1999.

Aside from its relatively lower price, Soong said the Jaguar Cars would offer buyers a financing plan—P1.5 million down payment, the balance payable up to 24 months.

RP aims to keep share of Japan official aid

BY CONRADO R. BANAL III

TOKYO—Finance Secretary Jose Isidro Camacho said he was confident that the Philippines would keep its share of the official development assistance from Japan despite the Japanese government's decision to reduce its ODA budget in the face of a deepening economic recession.

Earlier reports said Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi had informed President Macapagal-Arroyo that Japan would cut its overall ODA budget by 10 percent beginning April 2002.

However, Philippine Embassy officials here told Camacho that indications pointed to the possibility that the country might be able to keep its share of the Japanese ODA.

At the same time, in closed-door calls of top Japanese executives on the President, Ms Macapagal was expected to push for her administration's program to make the Philippines a leading hub for information communications technology in Asia.

In a last-minute insertion into her schedule, Honda Motors is expected to inform the President of its plan to set up a transmission factory in the Philippines to serve Honda's requirement in the whole of Asia.

An official of the Philippine Embassy here in Tokyo said the Philippine government was getting "a lot of serious indications" from the Japanese government that Japan would maintain the level of its ODA for the Philippines.

Latest figures showed that in the past few years, Japanese ODA for the Philippines amounted to more than $400 million a year, and the total has so far reached about $9 billion.

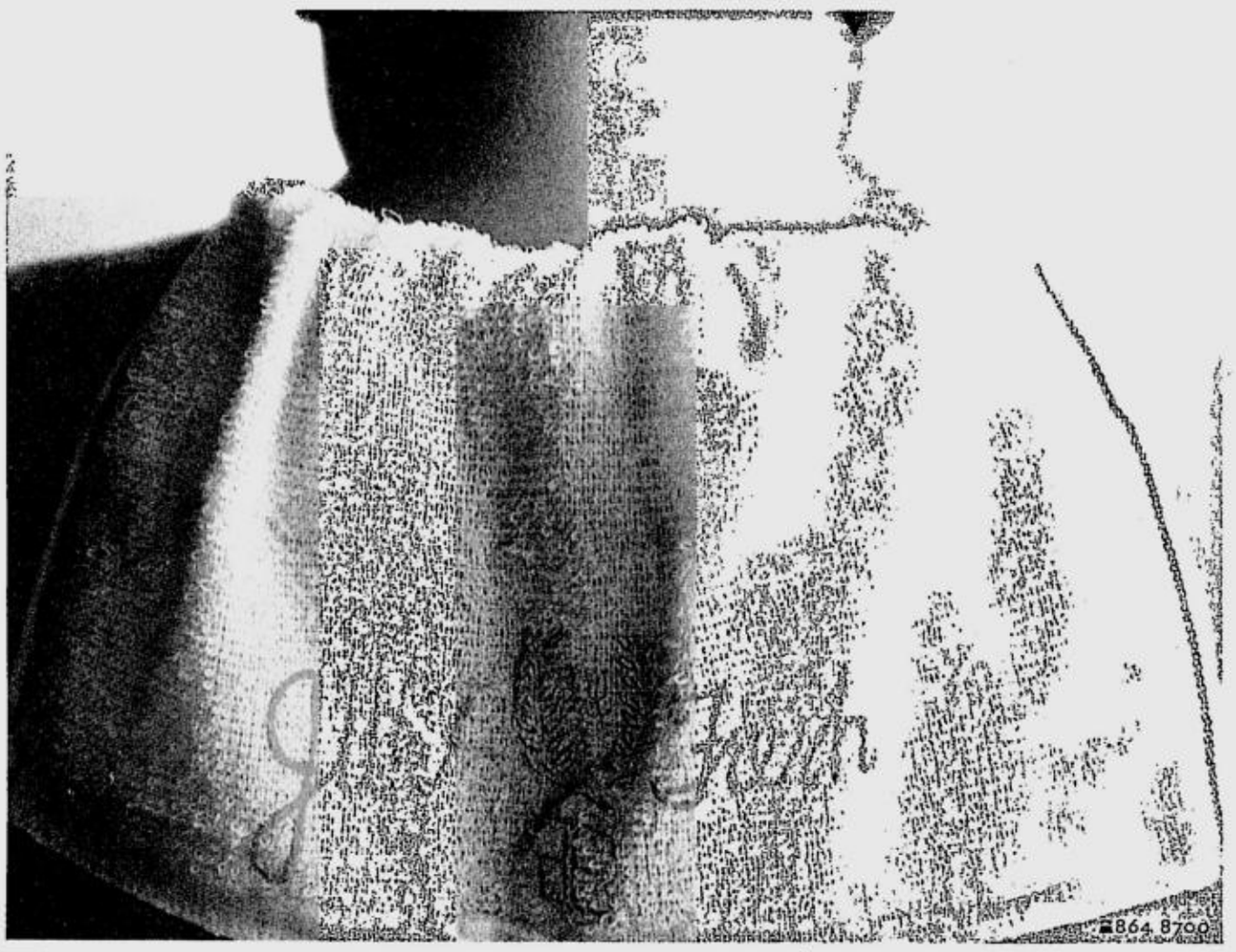
Concern over the cut in the Japanese ODA pervades this Tokyo trip of Ms Macapagal.

For the first time in about 10 years, the Japanese government's budget for ODA is being reduced to less than 1 trillion yen. The economic restructuring program of Prime Minister Koizumi targets a 10-percent initial cut.

As an indication of such a concern, the embassy official said, Economic Planning Secretary Dante Canlas had to join the official delegation.

Canlas also serves as director general of the National Economic and Development Authority, which oversees all ODA-funded projects.

In fact, in her first official function in this trip, a breakfast forum on Thursday, the President herself assured Japanese officials that the ODA would be well spent under her administration.



Fresh from J. Walter Thompson

WHAT KIND OF COMPANY CAN LEAD THE FUTURE ?

How can a pioneering, well-accomplished company sustain its fervour and hunger for new records?

On September 15, 2000, the communications agency J.Walter Thompson Manila launched a new vision, by which achievements become inspirations and not comfort zones. Called *Magical Journeys*, the vision was meant to be a"journey without a finish line." It united both employees and clients in the perpetual search for new lessons, strengths, and approaches to advertising.

In just one year after its launch, this vision of total communications enabled the agency to win nine new business pitches, earn the highest marks from clients, share top honors in the annual Creative Guild Awards, and create new business divisions.

This agency, which is best known for building brands, is also launching *JWT Fresh*.

This new brand is their benchmark for everything that they do. *JWT Fresh* encourages everyone to be inventive, to look from new perspectives and to set new records. This standard applies to ad campaigns, research methods, promotions, events, and other things yet to be invented.

In the past, JWT was the pioneer in strategic planning, which propelled many brands to leadership. This year, they strengthened Thompson Promo, Thompson Impact (for below-the-line marketing), Thompson Design (high-end graphic design) and Digital@JWT (interactive relationship marketing), in the hopes of blazing trails in consumer connection.

As its Executive Creative Director Robert Labayen puts it, JWT will not wait for new developments to unfold. Together with the agency's young and forward-looking management, this 20-year veteran will ensure that JWT charges ahead and invents the future.

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818-9411 to 20; 812-2008 & 843-7831 Locals 2320 & 2308

INVITATION TO BID

Sealed proposals together with 10% bid bond for the purchase on CASH BASIS of the Bank properties listed below will be received at the LBP Multi-Purpose Hall, Wings A & B, Bldg. I not later than **September 27, 2001 @ 2:00 p.m.** at which place, date and time, said proposals will be opened in the presence of attending bidders.

In case of closely clustered top bids (defined as having the second highest bid which is not below 90% of the highest bid), the opening of the sealed bids will be immediately followed by an open auction in which all bidders whose bids are not below 80% of the highest bid may participate. The minimum increase in the open bidding should not be lower than P1,000.

	PROPERTY DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	MINIMUM BID
1)	Ten (10) contiguous parcels of land with an aggregate area of 18,078.40 sq.m.	San Miguel District, Quiapo, Manila	P310,137,500
2)	Two (2) contiguous parcels of land with an aggregate area of 3,172 sq.m. with 3-storey commercial and 2-storey factory buildings	Along Sauyo Road, Brgy. Sauyo, Quezon City	20,573,300
3)	Three (3) contiguous parcels of land with an aggregate area of 4,076 sq.m. with improvements	Bo. Perez, Meycauayan, Bulacan	19,350,666
4)	Two (2) contiguous parcels of land with an aggregate area of 46,077 sq.m. with improvements	Bo. Lagundi, Morong, Rizal	11,031,000
5)	Fourteen (14) residential condo units with parking slots (PS):		
	Unit No. 7E/PS 52-B4 - 108 sq.m.	8 Wack-Wack Road, Mandaluyong City	5,869,300
	Unit No. 9C/PS 53 & 54-B4 - 174 "		9,513,000
	Unit No. 9F/PS 55 & 56-B4 - 174 "		9,513,000
	Unit No. 11C/PS 57 & 58-B4 - 174 "		9,687,000
	Unit No. 11F/PS 60 & 61-B4 - 174 "		9,687,000
	Unit No. 12C/PS 62 & 63-B4 - 174 "		9,687,000
	Unit No. 14B/PS 64 & 65-B4 - 146 "		8,492,000
	Unit No. 14E/PS 66-B4 - 108 "		6,157,300
	Unit No. 14F/PS 67 & 69-B4 - 174 "		9,948,000
	Unit No. 14G/PS 70 & 71-B4 - 146 "		8,492,000
	Unit No. 16C/PS 74 & 75-B4 - 174 "		11,132,600
	Unit No. 17C/PS 76 & 77-B4 - 174 "		11,190,600
	Unit No. 27D/PS 78-B4 - 108 "		5,958,000
	Unit No. 27E/PS 79-B4 - 108 "		5,958,000
6)	290.30 sq.m. parcel of land with 2-storey residential building	No. 10, Road 6, Project 6, Quezon City	3,759,000
7)	One hundred twenty eight (128) sets of sewing machineries/equipment	Dona Irenea Avenue, Ireneville Subd., Sucat, Parañaque City	
	• Eleven (11) sets, "Juki" 5-thread Overedging Machine, Model 2366N		140,800
	• Two (2) sets, "Brother" Embroidery Machine, Model LE2-B861-1		20,000
	• One (1) set, "Juki" Button Hole Machine, Model LBH-761		20,000
	• Five (5) sets, "Crown" Single Needle High Speed Sewing Mac., Model n/a		5,000
	• Four (4) sets, "Mitsubishi" Single Needle High Speed Sewing Machine, Model DB130		4,000
	• Four (4) sets, "Juki" Embroidery Mac., Model LZ-271		17,000
	• One (1) set, "Juki" Embroidery Mac., Model LZ-271		2,000
	• Three (3) sets, "Juki" Single Needle High Speed Sewing Machine, Model DDL 227		3,000
	• Five (5) sets, "Juki" Single Needle High Speed Sewing Machine, Model DDL-5530		25,000
	• One (1) set, "Juki" Embroidery Mac., Model LZ607		2,000
	• One (1) set, "Juki" Button Sew Machine Model MB372		17,000
	• Five (5) sets, "Yamato" 3-thread Overedging Mac. Model DCY-100 DCY-120/DCY-220		7,500
	• Two (2) sets, "Juki" 5-thread Overedging Machine, Model 2366N		23,800
	• Six (6) sets, "Kingtex" 3-thread Overedging Mac. Model SH6000		108,000
	• Two (2) sets, "Kansai Special" Piping Machine Model W-8103-F		16,000
	• Three (3) sets, "Juki" 5-thread Overedging Machine Model 3616		60,000
	• Fourteen (14) sets, "Juki" Single Needle High Speed Sewing Mac., Model DDL-888/DDL-555		112,000
	• One (1) set, "Consew" Flat Machine, Model 215		1,000
	• One (1) set, "Toyota" Single Needle High Speed Sewing Machine, Model LS2-D146		1,000
	• Four (4) sets, "Singer" Single Needle High Speed Sewing Mac., Model 291U3		4,000
	• One (1) set, "Juki" Single Needle High Speed Sewing Machine, Model DDL-5530		5,000
	• One (1) set, "Juki" 3-thread Overedging Machine, Model 352		1,800
	• One (1) set, "Toyota" Single Needle High Speed Sewing Machine, Model LS2-D146		1,000
	• One (1) set, "Juki" Single Needle High Speed Sewing Machine, Model DDW 226		1,000
	• Three (3) sets, "Juki" 5-thread Overedging Machine, Model 3616		60,000
	• One (1) set, "Kansai Special" Gartering Mac., Model DFB-1404-F		25,000
	• Four (4) sets, "Juki" 5-thread Overedging Machine Model 2366N		40,000
	• Two (2) sets, "Juki" Button Sew Machine Model MB 372		24,000
	• Two (2) sets, "Kingtex" 3-thread Overedging Mac. Model SH-6000		20,000
	• Two (2) sets, "Kansai Special" Piping Machine, Model W-8103-F		44,000
	• Six (6) sets, "Juki" Single Needle High Speed Sewing Machine, Model DDL-888/DDL-555		30,000
	• Two (2) sets, "Singer" 3-thread Overedging Machine		300
	• Three (3) sets, "Yamato" 3-thread Overedging Machine		300
	• One (1) set, "Juki" High Speed Sewing Machine		300
	• One (1) set, "Pegasus" 5-thread Overedging Mac., Model DC-MS-230		300
	• One (1) unit High Speed Sewing Machine, Single Needle		300
	• One (1) set, "Mitsubishi" High Speed Sewing Machine		300
	• One (1) set, "Brother" Button Sew With SN. 7221459		300
	• Five (5) sets, "Singer" High Speed Sewing Machine		300
	• Six (6) sets, "Brother" Embroidery Machine		300
	• Two (2) sets, "Yamato" 3-thread Overedging Machine		300
	• One (1) set, "Juki" 3-thread Overedging Machine Model 352		300
	• One (1) set, "Pegasus" 3-thread Overedging Machine		300
	• One (1) set, "Crown" High Speed Sewing Machine Model N/A		300
	• One (1) set, "Kansai Special" Piping Machine SN799059		300
	• One (1) set, "Juki" High Speed Sewing Machine SN 802082		300
8)	One (1) unit, "Mitsubishi" L-300, 1989 Year Model, Plate No. PML-574 with Chassis No. L037CC01343	Dona Irenea Avenue, Ireneville Subd., Sucat, Parañaque City	40,000
9)	One (1) unit, "Nissan" Sunny Pick-up 1989-year Model Plate No. PMU-677	- do -	15,000

If for any reason the above-mentioned date is declared a non-working holiday, then the public bidding shall be held on the next working day at the same time and place aforementioned.

Bidding forms may be obtained from the Office of the Vice President, Special Assets Department (SPAD), Land Bank of the Philippines. Prospective bidders are enjoined to inspect the above listed properties before entering their bids. The sale of the properties shall be "AS-IS-WHERE-IS." The winning bidder/s shall take possession of the awarded properties without seeking assistance from the Bank. The award in favor of the winning bidder/s shall be subject to the approval of the LBP approving authorities/President of the Republic of the Philippines whenever applicable.

LAND BANK RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, TO WAIVE ANY FORMALITY THEREIN AND TO ACCEPT THE BID MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE BANK. THE DECISION OF THE LBP SHALL BE FINAL AND BINDING.

JOSE C. NOGRALES
Chairman
Committee on Assets Disposal

(PDI – Sept. 15, 2001)

DBP

Development Bank of the Philippines

INVITATION TO BID

The Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP) will receive sealed bids on **October 4, 2001** at 10:00 a.m. at Suite 5, 12/F of the DBP Head Office Building at Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City for the sale in cash of the following DBP shareholdings:

DESCRIPTION	MINIMUM BID
13,601,080 Common Class "A" Shares of Stocks of the Manila Midtown Hotels & Land Corporation (Manila Midtown)	**P27,746,203.20 (at P2.04 per share)**

Bidders are reminded:

1. To be on time. No bids shall be accepted after the lapse of the hour set by the Bidding Committee for the opening of the bids. The sale shall be subject to other terms and conditions, which may be imposed by the Bank.
2. Bidding Rules and Procedures are available at the Capital Markets Development office, 3/F DBP Building, Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City.

THE DBP BIDDING COMMITTEE RESERVES THE RIGHT TO ACCEPT OR TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, TO WAIVE ANY FORMALITY THEREIN, OR TO ACCEPT SUCH BIDS AS MAY BE CONSIDERED MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE BANK. THE DECISION OF THE BANK IS FINAL AND BINDING.

For inquiries, please call our direct lines: 812-63-72, 815-22-69 or thru operator: 818-9511 to 20 local nos. 2310/2358/2359/2361.

CAPITAL MARKETS DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

(PDI – Sept. 15 & 16, 2001)

National Power Corporation

INVITATION TO BID

September 3, 2001

The National Power Corporation (NPC) has obtained a loan from Kreditanstalt Fur Wiederaufbau (KfW) to finance the foreign exchange cost of various spare parts and equipment for various NPC Plants/Substations (KfW Batch 4 Rebidding) and intends to apply the proceeds of this loan to eligible payments under the contract, for which this "Invitation For Bids" is being issued. With this, NPC invites sealed bids from eligible firms that are domiciled in the Federal Republic of Germany (that conduct there a significant portion of their business, and whose goods and services for the programme originate chiefly in the Federal Republic of Germany) for items listed below.

Schedule	Qty	Description
4A-1	1-lot	Measuring Equipment, consisting of Flue gas analyzing module, O_2-analyzer, CO_2/CO-analyzer, NO-analyzer, portable SO_2-gas analyzing module, Fly ash measuring module and evaluation unit.
4A-4	2-sets	Air Compressor, 30 Bars, 460 volts, 60 Hz

A complete set of Tender documents shall be available for issuance at the Office of the Bids & Contracts Management Department, 2nd Floor, Building II, National Power Corporation, cor. Quezon Avenue & Agham Road, Diliman, Quezon City (Zip Code: 1104) Philippines starting **September 17, 2001** upon submission of a Letter of Intent and upon payment of a registration fee of ONE THOUSAND PESOS (P1,000.00).

A Pre-Bid Conference will be conducted on **September 28, 2001** at 2:00 PM at the Solarium Conference Room, NPC-OBC, Diliman, Quezon City.

Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the Office of the Bids & Contracts Management Dept. (BCMD) Telefax No. 921-23-08.

Deadline for submission of accomplished bids shall be not later than 9:00 AM of **October 17, 2001.**

NPC reserves the right to reject any application or all bids without offering any reasons, waive any required formality therein and to make an award to the bidder whose bid is most advantageous to the government.

(Sgd.) **A. T. CORPUZ**
Chairman
Contracts Award Committee

(PDI--Sept. 15, 17 & 27, 2001)

Republic of the Philippines

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5/F SSS Building, East Avenue, Quezon City

Tel. Nos. 435-98-77, 920-64-01 loc. 2213
Fax No. 435-98-75
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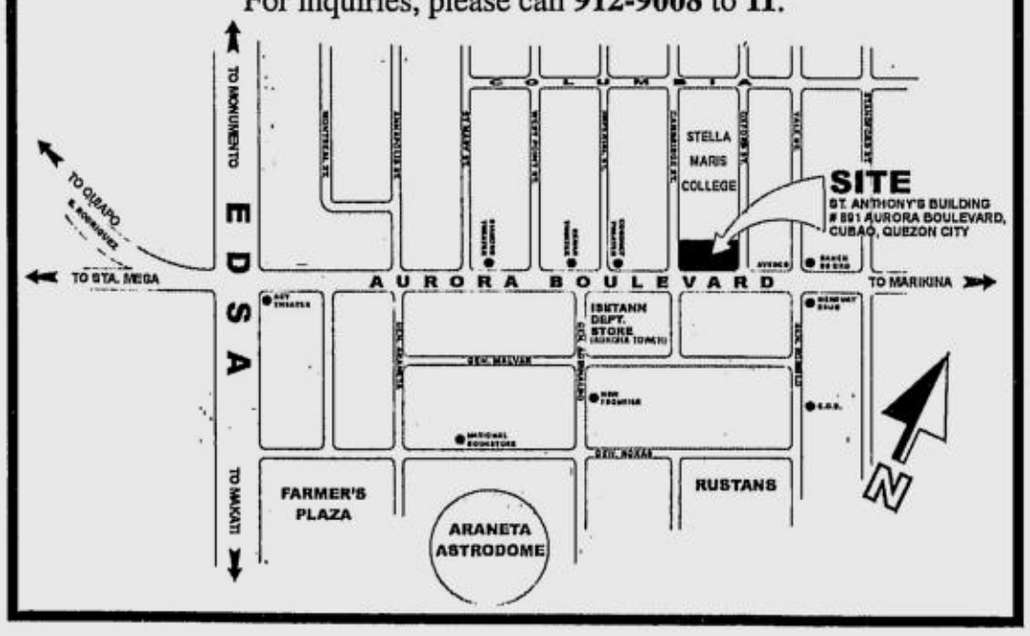

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Ucare Play 'n Learn promo

UCARE milk recently sponsored the SuperKid School to School Nutrition Information Campaign, where teams of nutritionists and pedia-dentists toured 43 public and private schools in Metro Manila for the whole month of August and facilitated fun and interactive nutritional sessions to classes of 5 to 6 years old children. In tandem with this project, Ucare milk launched the exciting "Play 'n Learn" raffle promotion especially for the children who participated the SuperKid School to School Nutrition tour. To join this promo, complete the entry form and attach one bottom flap of Ucare's 180g, 450g or 750g pack and drop it in drop boxes located in participating schools. Entries can also be sent directly to New Zealand Milk PO Box 1753, Central Business Park, Amang Rodriguez Avenue, Manggahan, Pasig. All entries must be submitted not later than today, Sept. 15.

Xenical chosen by diabetes study group

LOOK AHEAD (Action for Health in Diabetes), the first long-term study of the effects of weight loss in people with type 2 diabetes, has recently chosen only one pharmacological agent to be used in their research. Look Ahead, a multicenter and randomized clinical trial funded by the US National Institutes of Health (NIH), had chosen Xenical (Orlistat). Xenical is the only non-systemically acting prescription lipase inhibitor for weight loss, maintenance of lost weight and reduction of weight regain. Xenical is produced by pharmaceutical giant Hoffman-La Roche.

"We're very excited that Xenical has been selected for an NIH study of weight loss in type 2 diabetics of this scope and magnitude. This underscores our ongoing findings that Xenical can help people living with type 2 diabetes lose weight and improve their sugar levels," says Dr. Henry Solomon, Roche medical director.

Epson digital category in art tilt

THE EPSON Digital Fine Arts category is now open to Filipino college students who would like to participate in the 34th Shell National Students Art Competition. The new category is on top of the traditional three other categories, i.e., oil and acrylic, watercolor and sculpture.

Up for grabs as prizes for the digital fine arts category are some P100,000 worth of Epson products including printers, scanners and digital cameras.

Interested participants may submit entries in CD-ROM format accompanied by an A-4 reproduction printed either on photo or inkjet paper. The CD-ROM should contain all original working files used in comprising the entry, including unflattened "psd" files, fonts and raw files such as scanned images.

Entries may utilize scanned imagery and digital painting techniques. Manually produced art works that are scanned should be digitally reworked. However, only images produced by the participating artist are acceptable.

A complete listing of rules may be secured from the school's College of Fine Arts or Office of Student Affairs, at any Shell office, depot and installation, or at www.StudentArtContest.com.

Entries should be received on or before Sept. 15 at Shell House at 156 Valero Street, Salcedo Village, Makati City.

Starter workshop for web designers

A MACRO media Flash 5 starter workshop for beginners or interested web designers and artists has been scheduled this mid-September.

Asian E. Construction Inc., a company engaged in web development solutions, multimedia development, training and resources is sponsoring the workshop.

Facilitators for the workshop include Alvin Cruz, Web developer of Asian E. Construction Inc. and Lei T. Sarmiento, creative director, Asian E. Construction Inc.

The workshop will be held at Sterten Place Condominium, Maginhawa Street, Teachers Village East, Diliman, Quezon City.

For inquiries, call 815-4938, 815-6925 for details.

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Eternal life will swallow up that which can die. God made us for this very reason and He has given us the Spirit as a guarantee that we will live again.

John 17:9

ATILANA ABRILLA VDA. DE PALACIO

Peacefully joined our Lord on September 13, 2001 at the age of 97.

Her children **ADORACION, VIOLETA, NONONG** (†), **MELINDA, TATO**; sons-in-law **WAYNE & FLOR**; grandchildren **WILLIAM, MICHELE, ROBERT, CHONA & TONET, JOY & BOBBY, CORALLINE & RICKY, BOBONG & EDGAR, JET, ELSA**; great grandchildren **JILLIAN, JET-JET & ISABELA, EYA, DANIELLE**; relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Tentative schedule for the interment at Himlayang Pilipino, Tandang Sora, Quezon City is on September 17, 2001 after the 2:00 PM Holy Mass.

Renato Constantino

March 10, 1919 - September 15, 1999

On the second anniversary of his death,
his family remembers him
with love and pride.

ANTONIO V. VILLALUZ

(Retired Judge)
of Laoag City and Quezon City

Peacefully joined his Creator on September 13, 2001 at the age of 87.

His loving wife **Patrocinio Ku Villaluz**; children **Raquel, Lily, Lita** and **Lito Yllana, Arthur** and **Myrna, Val, Agnes, Luz, Danilo** and **Rosie**, and **Imelda**; grandchildren; great grandchildren and other relatives request your prayers for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at La Funeraria Paz, Araneta Ave., Quezon City.

Cremation will be on September 16 at 10:00 AM after the 9:00 AM Mass.

On the 11th of September 2001, the Lord Jesus Christ, Creator of Heaven and Earth and the Great Waters of Life and Beauty, called to His Kingdom where all living things find ripeness and purpose.

Carmela Vasquez Uichico

born on the 11th of July 1956 and known to those who love her as Mela. Her husband Joel and their children Adrien, Angelo and Alexandra, as well as her parents, Nena and Peping, Nena and Tony, request you, dear reader, to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the Capilla de San Francisco, Santuario de San Antonio, Forbes Park, Makati. Her remains will be buried at Manila Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque on the 16th of September 2001, after the 9:00 a.m. Mass in Santuario de San Antonio.

And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind and God saw that it was good. And God blessed them, saying "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas..."

PROF. CRISTY R. HERNANDEZ

of the University of the Philippines and the University of Batangas

Died in the Grace of our Lord on September 13, 2001 at the age of 78.

His wife **Ofelia**; children **Chito** and **Tonet, Ana, Noni** and **Che**, and **Marlene**; grandchildren **Iciay** and **Javi**; relatives and friends request your prayers for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina. Please call Tel. #920-0352 for the final schedule of the following:

- Transfer to Batangas City
- Next day return to the U.P. Parish for the funeral Mass, followed by cremation services at Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina.

THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL OF SOVEREIGN GRAND INSPECTORS GENERAL OF THE 33RD AND LAST DEGREE, ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

Deeply mourn the passing of

ILL. JOSE L. ARANETA, 33°

Past Grand Chancellor
Past Grand Secretary General
Past SGIG, Orient of Zamboanga and Sulu

who died at 6:00 p.m. on September 11, 2001 at the age of 96. He is survived by his children **Jacqueline** and **Katherine**; grandchildren, relatives and friends.

We request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the Holy Trinity Memorial Chapel, Dr. E. Santos Avenue, Sucat, Parañaque City.

The Scottish Rite and the Grand Lodge Funeral Services are scheduled at 7:00 p.m., Monday, September 17, 2001.

Interment will be at Manila Memorial Park on Tuesday, September 18, 2001.

"Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."
Matthew 11:28

Our Dearly Beloved Mother

Rosario "Charing" Fuentes Peña

Peacefully joined her Creator on September 14, 2001 at the age of 80.

Her loving husband **Victoriano**; children **Digna & Eddie Perez, Jaime & Ofie Peña, Marissa & James Rhee, Elmer & Cynthia Peña, Elizabeth & Lito Gonzales, Victoriano, Jr. & Menchie Peña, Alicia & Rene Guevarra**, and **Susan & Alex Crisologo**; sister, grandchildren and great grandchildren, relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the Royal Chapel of Holy Trinity Memorial Chapels, Dr. A. Santos Avenue, Parañaque City.

Cremation schedule at the Manila Memorial Park Crematorium will be announced later.

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"... absent with the body to be present with the Lord."
2 Corinthians 5:8

RUBEN U. PINEDA

Died in the Grace of our Lord on September 11, 2001 at the age of 82.

His bereaved wife **Eufrocina**; daughters and son **Becky & Tito Granda, Jesse & Bebot, Paulette & Bob Ort, Heidi** (deceased); grandchildren and great grandchildren, brother and sisters, other relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the Good Shepherds Memorial Chapel, Dolores, San Fernando, Pampanga.

Interment will be on Sunday, September 16, 2001 at Good Shepherd Memorial Park after the 2:00 PM Mass.

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

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People, Events & Products

ARIES B. ESPINOSA, Assistant Editor
aespinosa@inquirer.com.ph

Nike's design par excellence

NIKE'S trademark product innovation and technology received yet another notch of recognition at the 2001 Industrial Design Excellence Awards--a prestigious accolade established by the Industrial Design Society of America (Isda) together with Business Week that pays homage to cutting-edge design.

Nike's psa[play 120 and Triax 300 received the gold and silver respectively in the consumer products category. The 169 winners in eight categories were selected from over 1,600 entries from around the world. The criteria for judging consisted of distinction in design, functionality and performance--elements synonymous to the Nike heritage.

This running accessory fuses high quality digital music format with the design needs of a runner. What sets this sport utility apart from other MP3 players is its refined features--an ergonomic design and almost-not-there weight (a mere four ounces) that improves comfort when worn on the body or put in the pocket during any activity.

Featuring a wearable remote control, increased battery life and a solid state design that translates into no skipping, the device exemplifies the solution for integrated wearability and sport functionality.

This MP3 is the first to be designed specifically for sport. Its pared-down functions give the athlete optimum ease-of-use by eliminating seldom-used functions. The minimized control features allow the user to play, stop and skip without interrupting his/her focus on the work-out.

The psa[play 120 is priced at P32,995 and is currently available at Nike Park.

Nike Triax 300

This next generation of the highly successful triax sport watches is evidence of Nike's constant strive to push the design envelope. By improving and redesigning the existing design, the Nike team has created a co-molded monostrap that better conforms to the curves around the wrist bone for a better fit as well as improved airflow.

The oversized 23-percent angled display offers error-free readability to the athlete who is 100-percent focused on taking their performance to the next level.

The Triax 300 is currently available in all Nike outlets and is marked at P6,295.

At Nike, the guiding principle for product development is to design products that will enhance an athlete's performance. Through research and working with top athletes, we ensure that our mantra is translated into our products--taking them beyond functionality to performance pieces featuring advance technology and superior design.

MANILA MAYOR CITED BY ARELLANO ALUMNI

Manila Mayor Joselito L. Atienza holds plaque presented to him by the Arellano Manila North High School Alumni Association (AMNHSAA) led by its president Arsenio M. de Guzman Jr. (second from right), who is also Asian Pacific Group of Companies president and CEO, during the association's 57th induction program and awarding ceremonies at Barrio Fiesta, Greenhills, San Juan. Looking on are Outstanding Manileño awardee Joaquin P. Yuseco, Jr. (left), and outgoing president Rene E. Cristobal (right). The AMNHSAA has been cited for constantly promoting the cause of higher education by providing scholarship grants and subsidies to students. This year alone, it has granted P2 million in grants to 874 deserving Arellano students. The AMNHSAA is one of the country's largest high school alumni associations, many of whose members have shone in various fields of endeavor in the government and private sectors in the last 56 years.

DINERS CLUB LAUNCHES PREMIERE CARD

Diners Club International recently launched its newest card offering, the Diners Club Premiere Card, the first exclusive card of its caliber in Asia and thus far, only the second premium Diners Club Card in the world. During this launch, the state of the credit card industry was pronounced well and healthy by Alex G. Ilagan, executive vice president and general manager of Security International Card Corporation (SICC), issuer of Diners Club Cards in the Philippines. Shown presenting the features of the Diners Club Premiere Card is Ronald Bibonia, first vice president for business development of SICC, while seated are (from left) Ilagan, Rafael F. Simpao, Jr., the guest of honor who is also the president of Security Bank Corporation (SBC) and Jose A. Nuñez Jr., president and chair of SICC.

Petron's top position affirmed by magazine poll

A POLL conducted by Reader's Digest reaffirms Petron's top position in the Philippine market. Local consumers voted Petron as their brand of choice in the gas station category of the SuperBrands 2001 survey, evaluating it in terms of product and service quality, value, image, trustworthiness and understanding of customer needs.

The Gold Award status accorded to Petron is indicative of the company's steadfast commitment to customer service and satisfaction. "It is rewarding to know that our continuous efforts at improving Petron's services are recognized by our valued customers," says president and CEO Motassim A. Al-Ma'ashouq. "The honor of being a SuperBrand further inspires us to work at offering the consuming public nothing less than the best," he says.

This is seconded by Walter A. Tan, Petron's vice president for marketing, who believes that the awards given out by the consumers themselves are the best gauge of a company's performance. "We are in business primarily for these people. To get a positive feedback from them is an assurance enough that we have succeeded in what we strive to accomplish."

The SuperBrands Survey is conducted annually by Reader's Digest, Asia's most widely read magazine, among its readers in Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia, Taiwan, Thailand and the Philippines. Its aim is to shed light on the consumer preferences of a representative cross-section of Asian society by digging deeper into their psyche and discovering their favorite brands.

LEO MARTINEZ AT SBC MEET

Topnotch comedian Leo Martinez, the funny and lovable star of the ongoing advertising campaign of Sugarland Beverage Corp.'s Ponkana, recently made a surprise visit to the monthly conference of SBC's sales force held in the SBC Training Center in Quiapo, Manila. Martinez, whose strong mass appeal helped make the Ponkana campaign a huge success, delivered a short pep talk that further energized the SBC sales team to meet the challenges ahead. Ponkana has emerged as one of the best selling powdered drinks today, capturing the Filipino consumers' hearts with its unique true-to-the-fruit sweet Ponkana taste that is preferred by 8 out of 10 Filipinos.

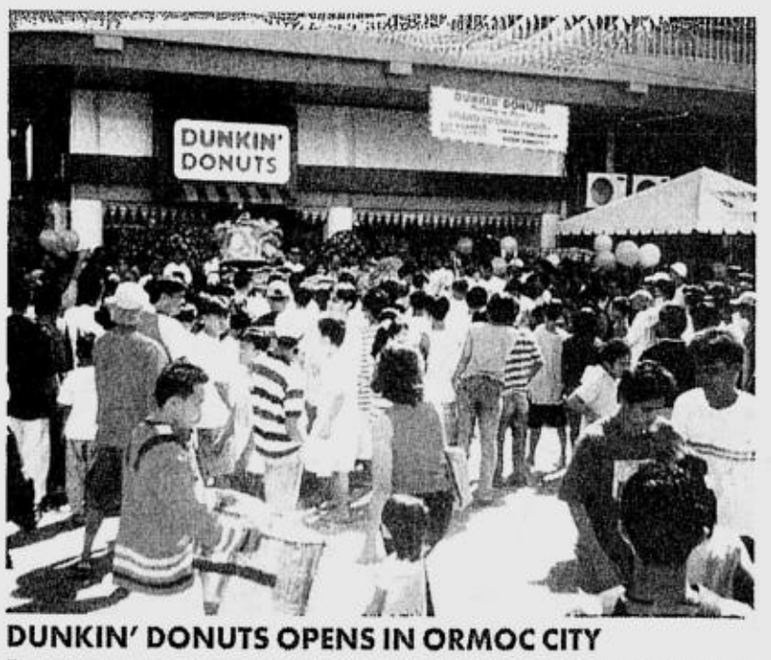
LPC election winners announced

LEONCIA F. Pedrajas, principal of Las Piñas College, wishes to announce the winners in the election of the Las Piñas College Junior Student Unified Congress for school year 2001-2002 held recently. The new set of officers were president Gemma S. Hernandez, vice president Arhreiza A. Junasa, secretary Emilyn G. Daysor, treasurer Peter Jake S. Jacob, auditor Lester M. Batac, business manager John T. Santos and public relations officer Jose Ma. Alberto Azarcon Gonzales.

The new governors are, first year Lobelle Tolentino, second year Bernadette T. Lacosta, third year Mary Rose D. Ong and fourth year Jeffrey L. Buenavista. The advisers are Eric F. Fabay and Antonio G. Corrales.

CDO LAUNCHES NEW MARKETING BLITZ

Foodsphere Inc. recently launched a massive sales and marketing campaign to support its CDO Karne Norte, a ready-to-eat canned corned beef in 100-gram pack. Present during the briefing held at the Rembrandt Hotel in Quezon City were top company officials and key sales executives. Foodsphere aims to grab a substantial share of the multi-billion corned beef market.



DUNKIN' DONUTS OPENS IN ORMOC CITY

Dunkin Donuts Pasalubong ng Bayan recently joined the Ormoc community with the opening of the first Dunkin' Donuts shop in Leyte, right in the heart of Ormoc City. Located along Aviles corner Rizal Street, Ormoc City, Ormocanons celebrated the inauguration of the much-awaited Dunkin' Donuts, the trusted name in freshly made doughnuts and great tasting original blend coffee. Dunkin' Donuts Ormoc City, owned and operated by Rising Sun Food Corp., is proud to be part of Ormoc City, recognized as one of the cleanest and greenest cities in Eastern Visayas.

Clips

PMA seminar moved

THE SERVICES Marketing Seminar of the Philippine Marketing Association originally scheduled last August has been moved to Sept. 17, 19 and 21 to accommodate more interested participants. To be held at Acceed, AIM Conference Center in Makati City from 1 to 6 p.m., the Services Marketing Seminar aims to provide essential knowledge and significant insights to executives and businessmen engaged in the marketing of services. For inquiries and more information, call the PMA Secretariat at 892-3144, 692-0978 and 892-3261 (telefax) or e-mail pma@philonline.com

'Enjoy light meals for a change'

THERE are days that you would just like to eat something light yet filling. Why not try to get new ideas on how to prepare different light meals besides just sticking to soup and sandwiches. The San Miguel Food Group Culinary Center would like to invite you to a cooking demonstration entitled "Light Meals". This will be held today, Sept. 15 at 2 p.m. at the Entertainment Plaza of the SM City North Edsa. Admission is free. So take along your family and friends and we hope to see you there. For more information, call 671-9876 to 91 local 402 to 405.

MasterCard promo deadline

IF you are a MasterCard cardholder, you can now get the chance to win over P1 million in cash and other prizes from MasterCard's Priceless Passions Promotion. Cash prizes totaling P1 million await the three major winners of the promotion. The grand prize winner will get P500,000, the second prize winner will get P300,000 and the third prize winner will get P200,000 credited to their winning MasterCard accounts. To join, cardholders must write their name, address, telephone number and signature at the back of a charge slip for any purchase worth at least P500; place the filled-out slip inside a white legal-sized enveloped; seal the envelope and mail it to MasterCard's Priceless Passions Promo MCPO Box # 1923, Makati City. Cardholders may also drop their entries at selected MasterCard member-bank branches of BPI, HSBC, Metrobank, SCB, AIG, and 1st e-Bank and Smart Telecenters. Deadline for submission of entries is on Sept. 15 and the draw will be held on Oct. 1. MasterCard can be reached through www.mastercard.com.

CELEBRATING WOMEN'S MONTH AT SM

The Philippine Health Insurance Corp. recently joined the Department of Health (DOH) in its Family Day called 'Health Blowout for Women and their Families' in celebration of Women's Month at SM Mega Trade Hall 2. Health Secretary Manuel S. Dayrit (seated, left) visited PhilHealth's booth where information officers oriented him on the Medicare benefits under the National Health Insurance Program (NHIP).

Linis-Kalat, Sagip-Dagat deadline

THE 101st Squadron of the Philippine Coast Guard, in cooperation with Vistamar Beach Resort and Hotel and Friends of Balayan Bay (FOBB), recently launched Linis-Kalat, Sagip-Dagat round II, a noble endeavor to clean up the bay waters of Balayan Bay in Anilao, Batangas thus helping preserve one of the most precious and most alluring coral reefs in this part of the archipelago. Linis-Kalat, Sagip-Dagat Round II will be on Sept. 15. Divers will be provided with free use of boat, free use of tank and air, belt and weight, and free food (breakfast, lunch and dinner) courtesy of Vistamar. For inquiry call 523-6383 or 526-7867 and look for Rhean, or call the Vistamar Office 824-0755 or 823-8269, look for Nenette, Maila or Willie.

FRANCHISE 2001 GATHERS WORLD'S BEST

Franchise 2001 gathers the top franchise leaders in the Asia-Pacific region in a two-day congress in Makati Shangri-La Hotel and Grand Expo at the World Trade Center. Together with PFA chair Bing Limjoco and PFA founding president and Asia Pacific Franchise Confederation chair Samie Lim are international franchise CEOs and council heads Robert Fowler of New Zealand, Pei Liang of China, Jim McCracken of Australia, Amin Yuan of Taiwan, Anang Sukandar of Indonesia, Amin Nik Abdul Mijid of Malaysia, Yasauo Matsuoka of Japan, Albert Kong of Singapore, Paradorn Intayoon of Thailand and Richard Cunningham of Canada. Keynote speaker of the opening ceremonies was Tony Tan Caktiong, chair, CEO and president of Jollibee Foods Corp. Also in attendance was Jose T. Pardo and Reynaldo Concepcion of PFA, Serge Ortiz Luis of Philexport, and Leonard Swartz, managing director of Franchising for Arthur Andersen, and William LeSante, vice chair for global marketing group of the International Franchise Association.

COXIB CONTROVERSY

Can arthritis pills harm you?

BY RAFAEL R. CASTILLO, MD

AFTER THE BIG the big fuss over the statins—cholesterol-lowering drugs causing a potentially fatal drug reaction pressuring Bayer to pull out Lipobay from the market—there is once again an emerging concern over another class of drugs which might also potentially cause serious side-effects. These are the drugs being taken for arthritis, specifically the selective cyclooxygenase-2 (COX-2) blockers, simply known as the coxibs.

The unresolved concern is that cardiovascular complications such as heart attack and stroke may increase with prolonged use of coxibs.

Most likely a ripple effect of the statin controversy, the coxib issue is again being resurrected. I was invited to lecture on the subject in Macau, China, sometime in April this year, and I discussed it in my editorial in the Philippine Journal of Internal Medicine (May-June 2001) and in my commentary in the Pakistan Journal of Medicine (June 2001). There was also a write-up on my Macau lecture published in the INQUIRER and in another newspaper but after a gentle splash, the issue somewhat was laid to rest in the local medical community, which I think was the appropriate thing to do while awaiting further data.

In all my lectures and published communication on the subject, I did not want to sound like the boy who cried wolf, but I did try to make an effort to put things in perspective so both doctors and patients can be guided on the proper considerations and precautions to take when the drug is prescribed.

The arthritis journal Relief will soon come out with a thorough incisive discussion on the controversy which, I was privileged to comment on. My modest commentary will be published with their article and I wish to share with you some data, insights and recommendation from my Relief commentary. Hopefully, it can offer a better understanding and appreciation of the issue, and possibly—a relief to those who may have exaggerated apprehension on the coxibs.

Again, just like the statin issue, one has to look at the data objectively and dispassionately to come up with an appropriate recommendation on the issue, both for doctors and patients.

New generation NSAIDs

The discovery of the COX-2 isoenzyme led to the theory that COX-2-selective blockade with drugs would provide the potent anti-inflammatory and pain-relieving effects of traditional nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) without blocking the COX-1 isoenzyme. Traditional NSAIDs are the old drugs being used for arthritis. The coxibs are supposed to belong to the new generation of NSAIDs.

Preservation of COX-1 by the coxibs would maintain the good type of prostaglandins in the body that are important for protection of the stomach mucosa to prevent gastritis or ulceration associated with the traditional NSAIDs. It also does not affect the activity of the platelets, which are the blood elements influencing either bleeding or clotting.

On the other hand, inhibiting COX-2 selectively, which the coxibs do, would block the prostaglandins that cause swelling and inflammation which can be disabling in those with severe arthritis. This sounded like a good idea. You get the desired effect, which is relieving pain and swelling; and avoid the unwanted side-effects, which are stomach irritation and possible gastro-intestinal bleeding.

However, it was later realized that it was not as ideal as it initially seemed it was. Selective COX-2 blockade by the coxibs also carried a potential problem.

ILLUSTRATION:STEPH BRAVO

Aspirin and traditional NSAIDs exert their antiplatelet effect by inhibiting COX-1, and thereby inhibiting the formation of a substance called thromboxane. It is a bad substance, which constricts the blood vessels and cause the platelets to become sticky, clogging the blood vessels.

Aspirin and traditional NSAIDs block thromboxane production, and this action can help prevent heart attacks and strokes. The coxibs do not. Hence, the coxibs do not prevent the tendency of the platelets to form blood clots, which can clog the arteries. Well, in Medicine, you can't really have a perfect pill.

Overnight blockbuster

The introduction of the coxibs has dramatically changed the therapeutic landscape for anti- inflammatory treatment in all types of arthritis. It became one of the overnight blockbusters, a therapeutic breakthrough. The preference to use the coxibs was (and still is) highly recommended, especially for high-risk subgroups, in whom the benefits of pain relief and inflammation management can be accomplished with a significant reduction in gastrointestinal complications.

Aside from the thromboxane problem, another underlying potential mechanism leading to adverse complications is that the coxibs may potentially reduce prostacyclin production in the blood vessel. This seems to add insult to injury because prostacyclin exerts a protective effect being a blood vessel dilator and inhibitor of blood vessel clogging by the platelets. Such concern however needs to be further validated by additional adequately designed pharmacologic and clinical studies.

Because of potential aggravation of high blood pressure and fluid retention as shown in some studies, it is recommended that caution should be exercised in prescribing coxibs to patients with heart failure or hypertension. However, some currently available studies suggest that the safety profiles of the coxibs may be agent-specific and cardiovascular complications may vary among the individual coxibs.

The cardiovascular safety profile of rofecoxib, as it relates to hypertension, heart attacks and other complications in specific patient subgroups requires closer scrutiny. The dose-related association between rofecoxib (taken 50 mg daily for extended periods), peripheral edema or *"manas,"* and high blood pressure—as well as head-to-head studies demonstrating a greater frequency of significant hypertension and cardiovascular complications in arthritis hypertensive patients treated with rofecoxib than in those on celecoxib—has evoked a cautionary use of rofecoxib in high-risk patient subgroups.

However, in fairness to rofecoxib, the trials were not really adequately designed to evaluate this aspect and the number of occurrences of these adverse events such as heart attacks, is quite small making it difficult to arrive at a definite conclusion. Subsequent clinical trials initiated by both the manufacturer of rofecoxib and several independent investigators did not show any significant cardiovascular adverse effect of the drug.

So what's the bottom line? If you've come this far, you're entitled to a decent, more reader-friendly conclusion and recommendation. At present, therefore, available clinical data support that it is still reasonably safe to use the coxibs, and it still remains as the preferred drug for arthritis patients at high risk of stomach bleeding. The risk of cardiovascular complications is relatively small compared to the outstanding clinical benefit in terms of relief of pain and swelling—hence, a much better quality of life—which one can expect from these drugs.

Ask any patient with severe disabling arthritis and he would likely tell you that he would take the small risk of developing a heart attack or stroke than endure the burden of an intolerable pain and swelling of his arthritic joints.

However, in middle-age and elderly populations with arthritis who are at high risk for heart attack, stroke and other complications related to blood clotting, available data suggest the cautionary use, not absolute avoidance, of the coxibs.

Personally, I still prescribe the coxibs. I make sure however that their use in high-risk patients is carefully monitored and their risk-benefit carefully weighed before prescribing them. Intermittent use—taking it only when the pain and swelling are intolerable, and only for short periods—would be preferred to prolonged continuous intake. Using low-dose aspirin with the coxibs in high-risk individuals has also been shown to prevent the dreaded adverse events.

The coxib controversy is still raging. I don't think we have heard the last word on the issue yet. The drug regulatory authorities in the United States and Europe are seriously evaluating all the information. Hopefully, in a few months, we'll get more solid data. Hopefully too, they can explain all the drug mechanisms and interactions in much simpler terms.

More Filipinos suffering from allergies

ALLERGY experts are alarmed that the prevalence of allergy is increasing among Filipinos and many cases of allergy have remained undetected.

According to Prof. Benigno Agbayani Sr., allergy is one of the most chronically occurring disorders in many parts of the world. It can manifest in so many ways, which the physician might attribute to something else other than allergy. Professor Agbayani is one of the pioneers in allergology and immunology in the country and a well-respected authority in this field worldwide.

An allergy is an abnormal reaction of the body to one or more substances that are harmless to most people. An allergen is any substance that causes an allergic reaction. More than 20 percent of the population has allergy symptoms and current scientific evidence shows that the prevalence is 21 percent in children, 26 percent in teenagers and 36 to 47 percent in adults.

Frequently missed

Agbayani recommends that medical practitioners should always have allergy at the back of their minds when they encounter patients with frequent colds, sneezing, wheezing when they breathe, redness and itchiness of the eyes, stomach cramps, vomiting and diarrhea.

"The diagnosis of allergy is frequently missed in many patients with recurrent upper respiratory tract infections or gastro-intestinal symptoms," says Agbayani, who is a professor emeritus of the University of the Philippines-College of Medicine.

Agbayani stresses that general practitioners are the first line of defense in recognizing and treating these allergic problems, including life-threatening woes such as anaphylactic shock and acute laryngeal edema, wherein the patient can literally choke to death.

Key factors

He emphasizes that key factors in the management of allergy are early recognition, identification of the allergens and prevention of complications such as superimposed bacterial infections of the upper and lower respiratory tracts, ears, skin and other parts of the body. "With an accurate identification of the allergen or substance causing the allergy, avoidance measures can be properly implemented and this is still one of the important keystones in the treatment of allergy," Agbayani explains.

Skin testing is still the most commonly used diagnostic test for allergy. Correlated with the patient's medical history, it is sufficient to confirm common allergies such as house dust mites, insect venom, grass pollen and animal dander. In certain cases, identification of antibodies using more sophisticated techniques such as Pharmacia UniCAP system, may be required, especially in the following instances:

Allergic infants, atopic dermatitis and infantile eczema, extensive skin lesions which render skin testing difficult; patients who had already taken histamines since this will suppress the wheal and flare reaction of skin testing; patients with oversensitive skin (dermatographism); anaphylactic reactions to drugs where skin testing can potentially cause the anaphylaxis itself; and older patients with wrinkled skin making the skin testing technically difficult.

Latest technology

Agbayani, who practices at the Manila Doctors' Hospital, is one of the allergy specialists in the country with an extensive experience on the UniCAP or ImmunoCAP technology. It is the latest state-of-the-art technology in allergy diagnosis to complement the skin-prick testing currently being used.

"I believe there is a place for the UniCAP allergy testing and this can be useful to both the family or primary-care physicians and the allergy specialists, both of whom should coordinate closely in diagnosing and treating allergy patients," says Agbayani. The doctor cites actual cases in his files wherein UniCAP testing proved to be informative and useful such as when the patients were in a refractory or rest period. "These patients usually turn out negative to skin testing but show elevated titers of IgE in the blood, which confirms the diagnosis," he explains.

In a study published in the Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology, the UniCAP or ImmunoCAP technology demonstrated superior reliability and accuracy, compared to four other tests, including the RAST blood test, once considered the standard for allergy blood testing.

The UniCAP technology is made by Pharmacia Diagnostics, represented in the Philippines by Trianon International. It is a division of Pharmacia Corp. based in Uppsala, Sweden. The parent company is the world's leader in invitro diagnostic research and product innovation.

The state-of-the-art UniCAP allergy technology is now available at the MDH, Medical City, Asiatic Laboratory, Healthway Medical Clinics (all branches), Asia-Pacific Diagnostic Services (all branches), Perpetual Help Medical Center, Advent Specialist Care, Sim's Clinical Laboratory and Medic World. The system will also be installed soon at the Makati Medical Center.

Dr. Ben Vergara, National Scientist

EUREKA!

Queena N. Lee-Chua

MY first glimpse of Dr. Ben Vergara was that of an energetic scientist, literally bounding across the room to shake my hand. We met at the office of Ms Luningning Samarita at the National Academy of Science and Technology (NAST) in the DOST compound in Bicutan, Taguig. I had long wanted to write about still-living outstanding Filipino scientists, who can become role models for the youth in these turbulent times. My research eventually led me to Ben, who had been on a similar quest, with the Salinlahi Museum as proof of his and his colleagues' efforts. (I have written on Salinlahi before, and urge people to visit this showcase of genuine Filipino ingenuity.)

Our initial meeting has since deepened into a precious friendship, punctuated by occasional meetings—at Salinlahi, at the DOST and at the NAST Silver Jubilee (I have yet to take him up on his invitation to visit his orchids in Laguna). But we corresponded mostly through e-mail—with Ben commenting on selected chapters of my now-finished work "Ten Outstanding Filipino Scientists" (Anvil, 2000), and I generally keeping abreast with his various activities.

With pride and joy, I now share with you that last week Ben was awarded the highest honor bestowed on a scientist in our country. On Sept. 4, Dr. Vergara was given the title and rank of National Scientist in formal ceremonies in Malacañang. This honor caps a lifetime of perseverance, creativity and excellence.

Benito Sibug Vergara was born on June 23, 1934 in Manila. Happily married to Lina Manalo, he has three children, now adults: Benito, Benito Sj and Lina Margarita. He graduated from UP in 1955, received his master's degree from the University of Hawaii in 1959 and his doctorate from the University of Chicago in 1960. In 1961, he started as associate plant physiologist at the International Rice Research Institute (Irri), and was steadily promoted, becoming head of the Plant Physiology Department in 1984, and finally the director for administration in 1991, until his retirement in 1996. He has been a member of the Ornamental Team of the Philippine Council for Agriculture and Resource Research, and has served as president of the Los Baños Orchid Society several times. At present, he remains a consultant at Irri, but is also the project leader of Salinlahi, a visiting professor of UP Los Baños, treasurer of the Asia Rice Foundation, and the president of Exotica, Flowers and Plants Inc.

Not surprisingly, Ben's research centers on plants: deepwater rice physiology, flood tolerance, rice cold tolerance, rice ratooning, flowering response to photoperiod, rice herbage, UV-B, yield potential, ornamental plants. He has almost 500 scientific publications, and is a member of several local and international professional organizations. He also wrote the "Farmer's Primer on Growing Rice," the most widely published agricultural text in existence. The 58 editions and 48 translations of the book attest to its importance and simplicity, and have launched the co-publication program of the International Agricultural Research Institutes.

His work has been recognized through the years. He was a 1958 Charles L. and Francis K. Hutchinson Fellow and a 1959 John M. Coulter Research Fellow at the University of Chicago. In 1961, he was voted one of the 24 Most Outstanding Young Men in the Philippines by Asia Magazine; in 1977, an Outstanding Phi Sigman; a recipient of the Biota Achievement award and the Pro Patria Award in 1980; a Crop Science Society of the Philippines Fellow in 1981; an Outstanding Alumnus of the UP Botanical Society and an Outstanding Kapampangan in Agriculture, a Fellow of the American Society of Agronomy in 1986; an Academican of the NAST in 1987; an honorary fellow of the Gamma Sigma Delta Honor Society of Agriculture UP in 1993; and an honorary scientist of the Rural Development Administration of the Republic of Korea in 1998.

Congratulations once more, Ben, and I join our country in saluting your commitment to Filipino science.

* * *

(Queena N. Lee-Chua, Ph.D. is an associate professor of mathematics and psychology at the Ateneo de Manila University, Loyola Heights, Quezon City. She writes the column "Mind Games" for www.inqZ.net every Wednesday, and can be reached at blessbook@yahoo.com.)

Can aging be reversed?

Savants say yes with the discovery of Human Growth Hormone

BY DR. JOSEF DE UBALDO, DSC.

PEOPLE have always dreamt about the existence of an effective anti-aging deterrent or a way of reversing the aging process. Since the beginning of recorded time the pursuit of the "Magic Remedy" has taken many forms, ranging from the proverbial fountain of youth, to the more recent scientifically well-researched Human Growth Hormone.

Scientists today feel that in the not too distant future the average life expectation can and will be extended to 100 years or more. Some experts even feel that the human body can live well into the 120s or 130s. Reasons for these include better medicine, replacement surgery, nutrition, supplements and, now perhaps the most important of all, HGH.

How the body ages

Any discussion of aging must begin at the cellular level. Whatever the causes, aging affects the ability of body cells to perform their vital functions. This is then manifested in other organizational levels of the body, including the tissues, the organs and ultimately the organ systems. It is likely that a number of factors contribute to the aging process, which ultimately affects the life span as well as the quality of life.

It is likely that aging may in fact be a combination of several theories. All have individual merit, but none alone can account for all the effects of aging. These theories include genetic influences, such as programmed cell death or apoptosis, accumulated cellular damage caused by reactive molecules that damage cellular components, or normal "wear and tear" associated with diet and lifestyle.

Genetically, it has been proposed that cells are programmed to replicate only a certain number of times and then die. In addition, some theories state that the genetic material of cells, DNA, undergoes changes over time in its structure. The structural alteration can affect the production of important proteins in the cell.

Over our life span, our cells are constantly bombarded with reactive free radicals produced as a natural consequence of cellular metabolism or through increased exposure to chemicals in the environment. These free radicals cause damage to cellular structures, especially the important cell membranes. Both intrinsic and diet-derived antioxidants help neutralize free radicals before they can cause damage. Decreases in the level of antioxidants can then lead to more accumulated cellular damage. Studies with monkeys have shown that by reducing the amount of food by about half (caloric restriction), life span is increased. Presumably, the attendant reduction in cellular metabolism slows aging by reducing the amount of undesirable free radicals produced.

Nerve cells (neurons) are practically susceptible to the effects of aging. This is primarily because mature neurons do not divide and any damage quickly accumulates. The effect on the nervous system also affects the thalamo-hypothalamo-pituitary (THP) axis, which is an important control mechanism for proper hormone function. Aging thus causes alterations in normal hormonal release, which in turn affects other body systems.

ILLUSTRATION:ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

Human Growth Hormone

HGH or Human Growth Hormones (also called somatotrophin) is produced in the anterior of the pituitary gland deep inside the brain, where it is one of the most abundant hormones secreted. It influences the growth of cells, bones, muscles and organs throughout the body. Production peaks at adolescence when accelerated growth occurs. If growing children have too little they remain as dwarfs, while if they have too much they become giants.

HGH is one of many endocrine hormones, like estrogen, progesterone, testosterone, melatonin and DHEA, that all decline in production with age. While many of these hormones can be replaced to deter some of the effects of aging, HGH reaches far beyond the scope of any of these hormones. Not only does it prevent biological aging, but also it acts to significantly reverse a broad range of the signs and symptoms associated with the aging process.

The decline of growth hormone with age, sometimes referred to as somatopause, is directly associated with many symptoms of aging, including wrinkling, gray hair, decreased energy and sexual function and increased fat.

As a powerful aphrodisiac, HGH restores sexual potency and sexuality in older men. A mood elevator, it restores a youthful sense of wellness and a zest for life along with the deepest levels of sleep.

Called "cosmetic surgery in a bottle," facial wrinkles are smoothened. The skin regains thickness and youthful contours, as it becomes more elastic and hydrated. Super healing properties can regrow burned skin and close ulcerated wounds. Hair growth is improved and restored; nails are strengthened; cellulite is removed.

In fact, everything that we associate with aging may be due totally, or in part, to the decline of HGH in our body.

Age reversal

In 1990, groundbreaking research by Daniel Rudman, MD, shook the medical world. Published in the prestigious New England Journal of Medicine, he announced that 12 men aged 61 to 81 had reversed up to the equivalent of 20 years of aging in six months with growth hormone injections.

Until recently, growth hormone has only been available in the form of injections that have been prohibitively expensive and difficult to use. The cost of HGH injections in the United States runs from $800 to $2,500 a month. Prices may start to drop as more pharmaceutical companies enter the marketplace. Nevertheless, they are still out of the range of most people and not only that, some worry about the possible effects of using an injected drug long term.

More interestingly and within the price range of virtually every "baby boomer" are the all-natural HGH releasers or antagonists known as secretagogues. These nutrients are designed to coax the pituitary gland to release its own growth hormone. Scientists have found that as we grow older we still produce HGH, but tissue levels fall because the pituitary gland does not release it. Secretagogues reverse this process naturally.

These are natural substances that have been well documented to increase the growth hormone; and which for some may even exceed the effectiveness of HGH injections. According to researchers, these cutting-edge natural secretagogues (HGH precursors) may have the ability to more closely mimic the body's youthful HGH secretion patterns than any other HGH therapies available.

Other anti-aging therapies

The most conventional anti-aging therapy set by orthodox medicine is surgery—face lifting, which to some patients have poured dangers or emotional trauma. Famous clinics such as Ana Asian Clinic in Romania have attracted tens of thousands seeking gerovital H3 injections. Many of the rich and famous such as Konrad Adenauer, Gloria Swanson, Groucho Menx plus some 50,000 other patients have been injected with fresh fetal lamb cells at Clinique la Prairie in Switzerland. While these treatments may have merit, none have passed the standards of drug test such as controlled, randomized, double blind clinical studies.

Enjuvenate

After several years in development, there is an all-natural growth hormone releasing complex and it is now available to more who are interested not only in staying young but also reversing their biological clock.

Based on numerous studies with human growth hormone, medical science has already proven that it is possible to reverse 10 to 20 years of aging in as little as 6 months of therapy. Enjuvenate is a natural anti-aging natural formula containing three proprietary ingredients—Super Protein Complex, Regeneration Complex and Pituitary Complex—that have a positive effect on the body's natural production of important growth and cellular activity substances.

SCIENCE/HEALTH

CESAR D. MANGAWANG, Editor ■ STELLA O. GONZALES, Assistant Editor

'Violent future' to spawn more mental health woes

BY TESSA R. SALAZAR

INCREASING violence and malaise in the world today are spawning psychosocial problems and are expected to cause innumerably more incidents of violence among people within communities.

These are just some of the problems cited by the World Health Organization when it stated in its April 1999 fact sheet that mental and neurological problems are among the most significant contributors to the global burden of disease. Mental problems accounted for 10.5 percent of Disability Adjusted Life Year or Daly lost in 1990.

Some 400 million people in the world suffer from some form of mental and neurological disorder or from psychosocial problems such as those related to alcohol and drug abuse, said the WHO.

Mental problems manifest themselves in unipolar and bipolar affective disorders, psychosis, epilepsy, dementia, Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis, drug and alcohol dependence, posttraumatic stress disorder, obsessive compulsive disorder, panic disorder and other neuropsychiatric disorders.

ILLUSTRATION:ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

The 'quiet epidemic'

The CBS Health watch described posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) as a result of frightening events that "reach out" from the past to "assault" the lives of victims. PTSD is expected to hit one in 10 US citizens at some time in their life. It often follows in the wake of a serious traumatic event such as serious physical injury or violence, death, or rape.

Perhaps the most serious event that could induce PTSD among those who were victims or who witnessed it would be the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the United States.

Dubbed as the quiet epidemic, and one of the most often overlooked psychiatric disorders in the United States, PTSD is most likely to result from interpersonal trauma. It is estimated that of the 50 to 80 percent of Americans who have experienced some form of trauma, 10 to 20 percent will suffer from PTSD. CBS Health Watch said that women would develop it twice as often as men do, and 8 percent of the population will experience some time or other in their lifetime.

The only diagnosis

PTSD has been defined by Esther Giller, executive director of the Sidran Foundation, as the only diagnosis for which there has to be an actual event and experience that overwhelms a person's ability to cope and threatens his life, physical wholeness or sanity.

Several psychiatric problems would go hand in hand with PTSD. Dr. Jonathan Davidson, professor of psychiatry at Duke University Medical Center, said that 19 percent of attempted suicides are associated with PTSD. Davidson added that it is not unusual for people with PTSD to start drinking or taking drugs excessively. They would also experience panic attacks. He said, however, that once PTSD is diagnosed, half the battle is already won.

Depression, one of the conditions that usually accompany PTSD, affects about 340 million people worldwide, according to the WHO. The WHO also projected depression to become the leading cause of disability and the second leading contributor to the global burden of disease by 2020. Depression can lead to suicide, but it can be reliably diagnosed and treated in primary care. Less than 25 percent of those with depression, however, have access to effective treatment.

'Share and care'

Trauma experts, according to the WebMD Health, said "sharing and caring" are the best responses to terror and trauma.

Psychiatry professor Syed Arshad Husain, MD, director of the psychosocial trauma center at the University of Missouri, has studied the psychological aftermath of the terrorism at Oklahoma City and of the war in Sarajevo.

Husain said trauma could also result from viewing images of destruction. Husain told WebMD that "only a small number of people are directly affected (by an incident), but after looking at the pictures in the paper, secondary trauma was rampant." Identified as among those affected are actual survivors, their families, emergency medical personnel and those watching the event on television.

Experts encourage people to share their feelings and reactions and assess them together. Husain advised parents to carefully monitor their children's TV viewing and newspaper reading habits. He said children should be told that it is normal to get scared. But parents and caregivers should assure children that they are going to be safe.

Those who witness the horror are victims, too

THE WORLD rode an extreme emotional roller coaster the past few days. At the very instant the first commercial jetliner slammed into one tower of the World Trade Center in New York, people all over the world were in disbelief, shock, grief, anger and stress.

It was undoubtedly a day of tragedy for the thousands of office workers trapped in the buildings of the World Trade Center complex. But for the millions of TV viewers, including Filipinos, thousands of miles away from the scene of the "war zone" in New York, they, too, were victims as well. For those who watched the scenes unfold on CNN, BBC and on other news channels on cable TV, and on the Internet, they would forever be what mental health experts call the "indirect victims."

Indirect victims suffer from stress and anxiety that would affect their psychological, mental and even physical makeup, said psychiatrist Connie S. Aleta, program manager of the National Mental Health Program. In the Philippines—the "texting capital of the world," text and e-mail doomsday messages abound. Some of the most popular messages circulating include a passage from legendary soothsayer Nostradamus in 1654: "In the City of God there will be a great thunder, two brothers torn apart by chaos, while the great fortress endures, the great leader will succumb, the third big war will begin when the big city is burning."

This passage also made its way to a local TV program, its host even going so far as to say that "worldwide prayers now ongoing to counter Nostradamus' third world war prediction.

The scenario is transformed into reality by consistent news reports that the United States is ready to wage war on any "terrorist-harboring government" anytime. "US military on highest state of alert, short of being officially at war," a cable TV's flashing news banner read.

Aleta said during an interview that the text messages, TV viewing, newspapers and the Internet that created emotional and mental stress could also manifest in physical stress that includes heart palpitations, chest pain, insomnia and unreasonable worries and fears.

"The world is getting to be a stressful place to live in, but what is stress all about?" said Aleta. She added that psychological and mental health are often neglected, taken for granted and hardly appreciated by concerned agencies, not realizing that these could have a larger impact on society.

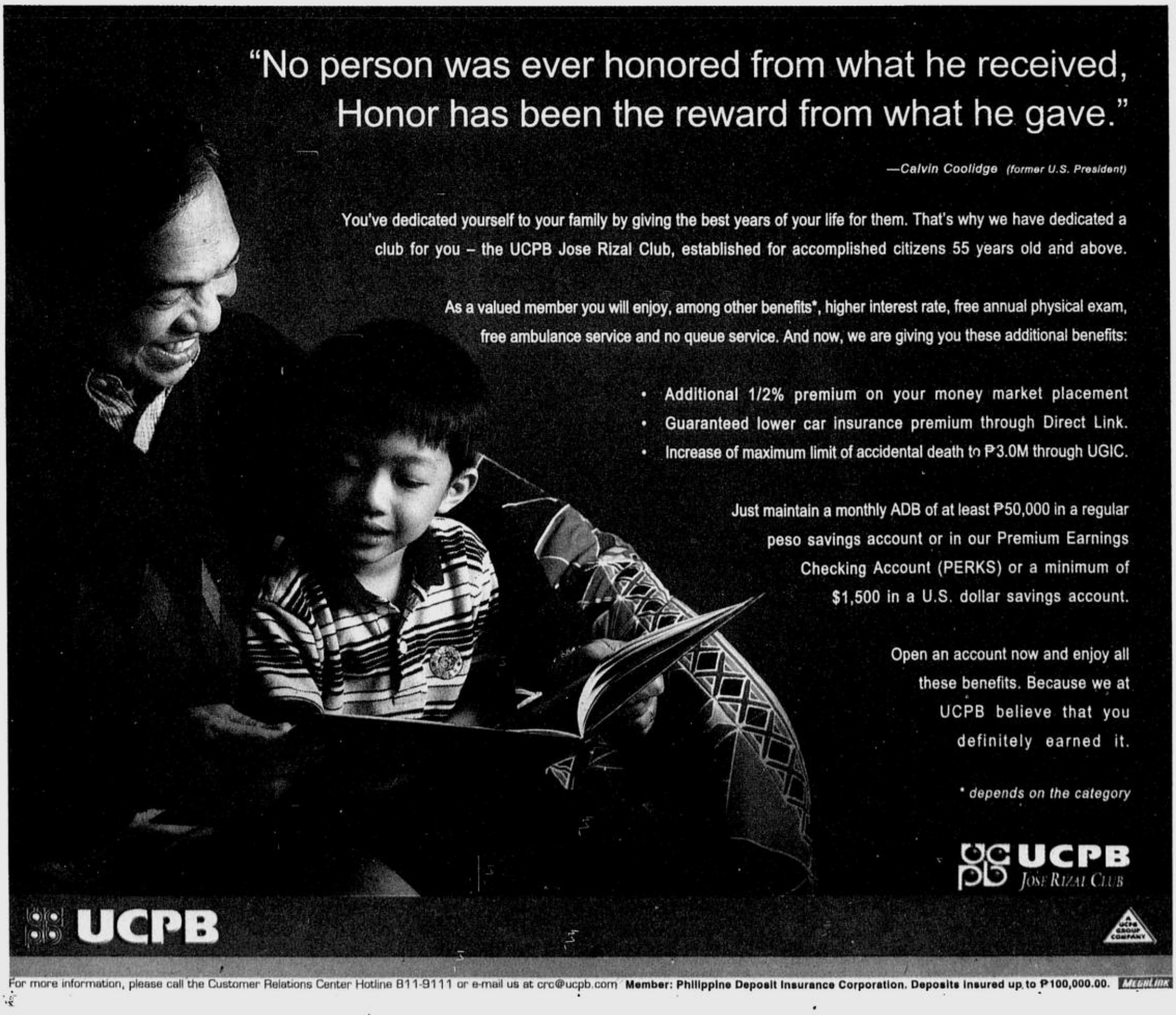
"Incidents of great magnitude (such as the World Trade Center bombings) are the ones that can concretize the concept of mental health, but that the people will still not view it as such," she said.

Those with chronic ailments such as asthma or heart problems "may be at greater risk of losing control of their condition if they feel stressed," warned the WebMD medical news after the Sept. 11 disaster. Even if someone were far from the physical scene of the disaster, if he or she who has "significant illness experiences something psychologically distressing, it is important to remain as calm as possible," stated cardiologist Steven V. Manoukian, MD, in the WebMD medical news. Manoukian added that chest pains and heart attacks could arise from the psychological stress that people feel when viewing or listening to disasters. His advice is to remain calm and relaxed and be objective about any situation that could be stressful.

The WebMD, quoting from David Rosenstreich, MD, professor of medicine and microbiology-immunology at Albert Einstein Medical College in New York, stated that some people's asthma could worsen from anxiety and stress. These people, he said, should seek urgent medical assistance if their asthma medicines fail to work. WebMD has also listed down helpful tips in treating or managing stress.

Aleta also said that Filipinos who have families and relatives working in New York and Washington, or who have had loved ones included in any of the four doomed flights need psychosocial support now more than any time.

Tessa R. Salazar



RP hosts cancer confab

THE 16TH Asia-Pacific cancer conference will be held in Manila on Nov. 18-21 at the Philippine International Convention Center.

Organized by the Philippine Cancer Society in cooperation with other professional societies and agencies engaged in cancer prevention and control, the four-day conference will involve noted cancer specialists from India, Japan, New Zealand, Malaysia and the Philippines and other countries.

Noted oncologists of the different subspecialties will give lectures on individual cancer types. Research papers on the latest diagnostic and treatment modalities in cancer will also be presented.

For inquiries, call up the congress secretariat, Philippine Cancer Society, at 733-34-85 or fax (632) 735-2707 or e-mail at 16apcc@pcsi.com.ph.

Symposium tackles age reversal

A SCIENTIFIC symposium on age reversal will be given for free on Sept. 29 at the Corregidor function room of Century Park Sheraton in Manila at 6-8 p.m.

Dr. Eleazar M. Kadile, MD, director of the Center for Integrative Medicine based in Wisconsin, United States, together with certified clinical nutritionist Genia I. Kadile, M.A., will discuss the role of Human Growth Hormone in delaying the age process.

Due to limited seats, medical practitioners are requested to preregister by calling 371-7015 to 16.

CONCHITINA SEVILLA-BERNARDO, Editor

all about élan

ANNIE CARMONA, Marketing Consultant

HOWARD BORJA, Art Director

[éla] flair, distinction, class

Great, valuable prizes in store for the

Rustan's BABY

Make your baby the first Rustan's Baby of this millennium! He/she could win:

Baby Products Showcase worth P100,000
PLUS
A College Educational Fund
worth over P500,000

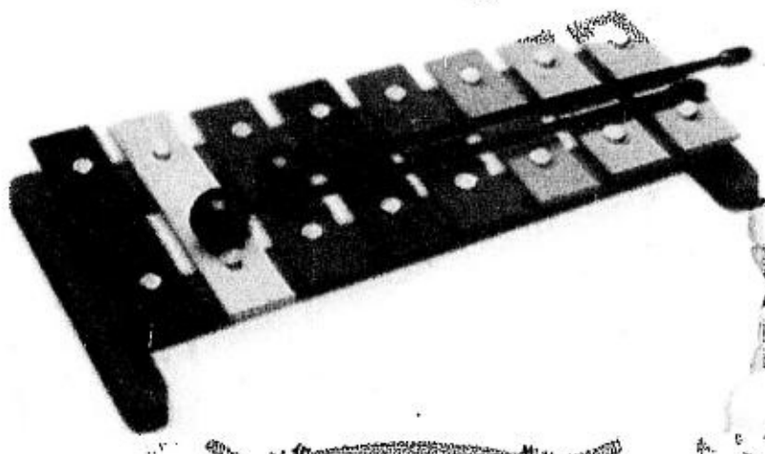
If you have a baby born in the year 2000, you can register him/her as a candidate. All you have to do is visit any Rustan's Department Store Infant's Section and make an initial purchase of at least P2,000.

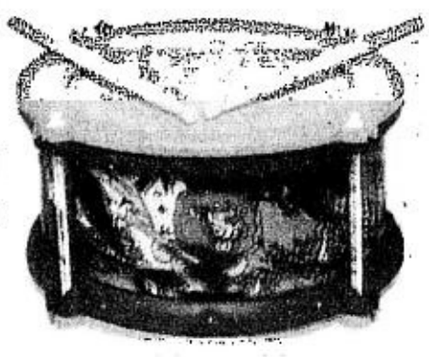
Then tell your relatives and friends to shop at Rustan's Children's Department to help you earn points for your millennium baby beginning **March 30, 2001.** Every P500 purchase you make is equivalent to one point. If your baby comes up with the highest number of points by **March 15, 2002,** he/she wins! And if your baby wins, you or any of your relatives and friends also get an added treat -- a chance to win a Rustan's Gift Certificate worth P50,000! So shop now and be a Rustan's winner.

Winners will be announced on March 22, 2002. See posters for details.

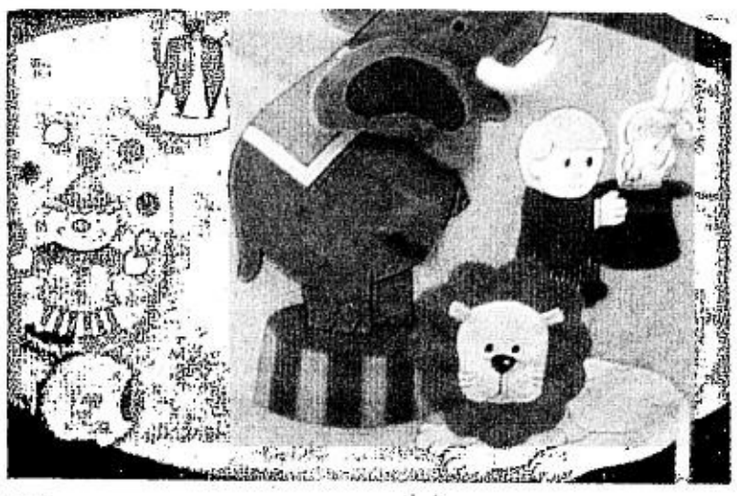
MAKATI • SHANGRI-LA PLAZA • CUBAO Rustan's HARRISON PLAZA • ALAB[illegible] CEBU

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0345 Series of 2001





AUDITORY ENTERTAINMENT
Tap into your child's musical potential with education musical instruments from Halilit Toys of Israel. Percussion instruments and rhythm pals as well as melodious glockenspiels are delightful toys for children.



VISUAL DELIGHTS
Baby's playmats need not be boringly pink. From Dollycraft are playmats that portray underwater and circus senses that are every child's visual delights. Stimulate a child's sense of sight with these colorful and fun playmats.

LET'S face it, working mothers don't have as much time as full-time mothers to spend with their children. And this has become today's reality for most women.

Luckily, there are toys that stimulate the imagination and intellectual development of children—especially toddlers—which require minimum adult supervision and are thus ideal for children of working mothers.

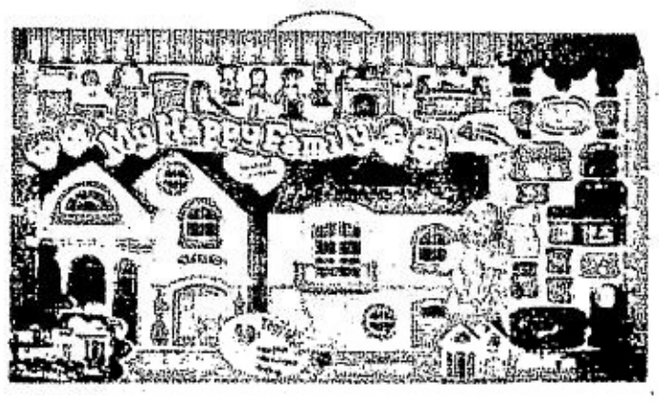
Available at Rustan's Children Department are children's toys that encourage a child's curiosity for the world around him and challenge him to think and explore. These toys stimulate the senses and allow children to hone different skills.

BUILDING MOTOR SKILLS
Build your baby's motor skills with a mini-gym. The gym allows a baby to move around and play with different gadgets in the set-up. The gym allows for 14 different kind of activities. Made of cloth and soft plastic, this contraption is easily assembled and taken apart.

WORKING THE MIND
Stimulate your baby's intellect with So Smart videos, compact discs and cassesttes. So Smart Learning Videos for Babies have been adjudged as Parenting Magazine's Best Video of the Year and Dr. Toy's Ten Best Educational Products. So Smart products also include SleepyTime, PlayTime and CarTime CDs and cassettes that help keep children stimulated and occupied when families are traveling or during quite moments at home.

For Baby

BUILDING THE IMAGINATION
Creativity and imagination can be developed in children with stimulating toys that imitate real life. From Karpan's Baby Shop where children can pretend they are buying groceries as well as Happy Cars with multiple function to baby Culture's Guide Light Keyboard and My Robot Pal, these toys give children an opportunity to create their own world.



Come and visit Rustan's Department Store today. To further enhance this is a special tie-up with Hong Kong Shanghai Bank with their launch of the Red MasterCard and qualify for a raffle for a P500,000 shopping spree at Rustan's Makati this December.

PLAYTIME FOR LITTLE GIRLS
From Keenway comes toys for girls from doll houses to vanity kits and beauty sets. Little girls will enjoy playing house and primping themselves with toys from Keenway, one of the biggest toymakers in the US.

Today You're 1!

THERE'S no sweeter moment than dressing your baby up in a party outfit and watching her blow out her very first candle. Quick! Snap a picture!

The setup

Make and mail out the invitations about two weeks before the big event. The day before the party, create a baby-safe party zone—clear one room of all breakable, sharp and otherwise dangerous objects. Then make the cake and fill the goody buckets.

The big day

* Until all the guests have arrived, keep little ones occupied by letting them play with a few large balls or stuffed toys.

* Juice break! Sippy cups and oversize pretzels for all. Then, gather in a circle on the floor for finger games and favorite songs.

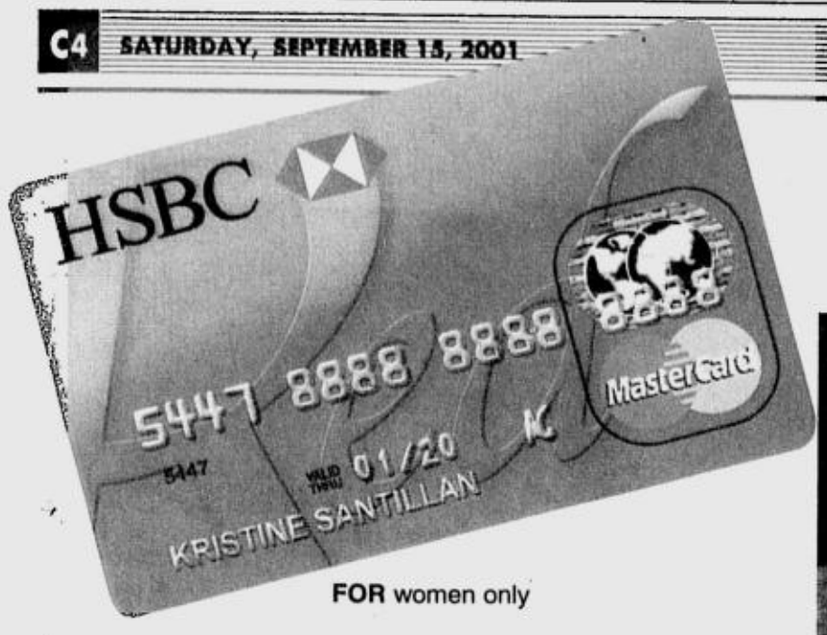
* Shake out those sillies! Put on some hip-hop music and dance. If you have a TV in the room, a dance video livens up the action.

* Read a story with several characters or animals. Change your voice as you read different parts. If you want, use hand puppets to act it out.

* Serve cake. Don't forget to capture that important candle-blowing moment on film!

REPRINTED FROM PARENTS MAGAZINE

ACHIEVING MOMS



FOR women only

HSBC's Red MasterCard: A First For Women

FOR very good reasons, women in the Philippines are the focus of the first-ever credit card, designed exclusively to cater to women's needs—the Red MasterCard from the HSBC.

With the Red MasterCard, HSBC has created an internationally accepted credit card with added benefits to address the realities of the many roles women play.

These special features that not currently being offered by a generic credit card, could be offered to female customers. This was the starting point in the development of this innovative product.

Real women with real needs

To design this credit card to be responsive to women, HSBC recognized that today's women are more independent and are a strong force in society. With the new economy paving the way for double-income families, women are playing a more dominant role in managing the finances of their families. The pressure is greater for working mothers, who are confronted with the daily task of balancing personal, family and career concerns.

HSBC's Red MasterCard provides a fresh approach to tailoring benefits to a woman's preferences.

The Red MasterCard is a full-fledged international credit card, accepted in over 17 million establishments worldwide. It also offers a 51-day interest-free period and easy payment terms of as low as 5 percent a month. 24-hour customer service is available and payments can be made in over 1,100 centers nationwide. Free travel accident insurance coverage worth up to P1.5M is available for cardholders who charge their fares to Red MasterCard. Every P10 spending entitles cardholders to Rewards points, which may be accumulated for gifts, value and cash vouchers, air miles and Charity rewards. Red MasterCard holders who activate and use their card within 30 days get free 1,000 Rewards points.

What women want

So it already carries all the features of a world-class international credit card. Plus, it carries additional benefits to suit a woman's lifestyle.

First, it has a stylish design, which embodies the character that women today carry.

Second, it carries automatic health benefits, recognizing that women's health needs are different and unique.

Through a strategic alliance with Healthway Medical Clinics, a wide range of health packages and discounts are available for Red MasterCard at conveniently located clinics. Upon presentation of the Red MasterCard, cardholders get 20% discount for women—specific medical consultation and laboratory tests such as Cervical Cancer Detection Test, Breast Cancer Detection Test, ovarian uterine screening and osteoporosis test. Cardholders also get 5% discount on medicine bought at their pharmacies and a reduced dermatology consultation fee and oral prophylaxis at P250 and P100, respectively.

Still another exclusive healthcare benefit is the "Healthy Woman Package," which was specifically developed by Healthway, for Red MasterCard holders. Upon approval, Red MasterCard holders will receive vouchers, which entitles cardholders to purchase a Healthy Woman Package from Healthway for only P500.

Thirdly, HSBC has also recognized that financial security of her family rates very high. Courtesy of PhilamLife, Red MasterCard holders have the option to avail of a life insurance package designed exclusively for women. This provides coverage up to P1M and has a free Female Cancer Rider, which provides a lump sum payment of as much as P100,000 upon diagnosis of a female-specific cancer.

My simple joys

And who says a woman is not entitled to occasional self-indulgence? Hence, the fourth benefit of pampering! The Red MasterCard offers a host of instant discounts and preferential rates negotiated with a variety of shopping, dining, beauty and fitness establishments such as the Discovery Spa, Perk Body Care, Paradigm; Tips and Toes, Manel's Le Donne, Fossil and Vice Versa.

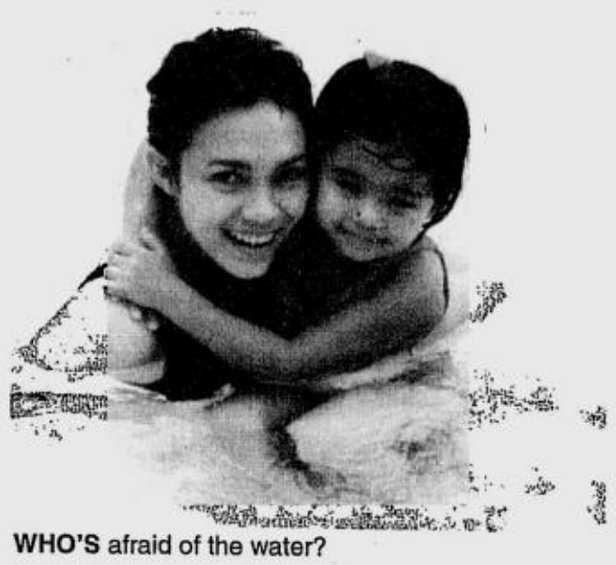
Big rewards

To start off with a big band, HSBC introduces the Red MasterCard with a promotion wherein all qualified applicants get a chance to win P500,000 of tax-free shopping for a once-lifetime one-day shopping spree at Rustan's Makati in December 2001.

Red MasterCard, the first credit card for real women with real needs, promises excitement, learning, friendships and a whole new enhanced quality of life for today's working women.

It pays to recognize how special women really are!

A TENDER moment with Arielle



WHO'S afraid of the water?

Putting "Me" First

ANGEL Jacob is a young mother of seven-year-old daughter Arielle, who ranks first in her list of priorities. While she finds a sense of accomplishment in her budding career as a television personality, she admits that being "mommy" is the best job she has handled so far.

"I don't think I was ready for motherhood when I had Arielle but this is one job I am most proud of," says Angel, an all-around mom and dad. Having had to survive a failed marriage at an early age, Angel took on the myriad of parenting roles usually shared by husband and wife. "Being a single parent is difficult but I guess when you're a mother, you are able to put on different hats for your child. In fact, you can be teacher, caregiver, handyman and driver all at the same time."

"Being a mother is a challenge but it has its perks." Angel says that her moments with Arielle are the times she feels best loved and adored. Like all mothers, her child is her reason to work hard, gain more financial independence and stay healthy.

"My health is very important to me," she says. "With the responsibility I have, I cannot afford to get sick. I don't miss breakfast in the morning, no matter how early I have to be for my "Breakfast" show." Angel says, "With the health benefits that Red MasterCard offers, I have more incentives to take care of my health."

Inspiring words from a celebrity mom, who like other working mothers, are the inspiration behind Red MasterCard's mission to be the first and only credit card for women, especially for those who have the task of balancing work and family.

ANGEL Jacob and daughter Arielle

Her advice to single working mothers, "Identify your problems, learn to be independent and establish goals in your career, family and personal life."

JUST like mom

First Things First

"MAXIMIZE your potential to be the best possible person you can be." Spoken with convection and determination, this personal mantra of Cathy Palma, a long-established career woman who chose the field of management training and customer service enhancement, may well be her unsolicited advice to all working women.

ENJOYING a tarsier in Bohol

A mother of two, Cathy epitomizes the woman who has accepted the challenges of accomplishing the multi-faceted role a woman plays. "God gave us a life to live. I believe it is one's responsibility to live it to the fullest," says Cathy. At 44, she and her friends realized there was an opportunity to pursue a new venture. Together, they started "Treasures of the Orient," a program of personalized shopping and adventure tours, which brings both local and foreign visitors to explore the country and discover great shopping finds. She also runs International Management Systems Corporation, a training and management consultancy.

Cathy is a living example of today's working woman, who expertly balances her management of home, children and career. "First things first," she advises. "When you have established a strong foundation for your various pursuits, everything else follows."

She works 24 hours, 7 days, and considers the world as her office.

The Red MasterCard from HSBC, the first and only credit card for women, takes care of women like Cathy, who know how to take care of themselves. Independent and empowered, she is in control and plays her different roles the best that she can. But like any wise woman, Cathy knows how to enjoy life—making sure she is happy, healthy and secured.

CATHY Palma with children Josyn (age 11) and Anton (age 7)

GIFT-GIVING and games with the children of Smokey Mountain

A WONDERFUL shopping experience

A Woman's Shopping Experience By Red MasterCard

WHAT do women want? In a quick survey of working women on their simple joys to little pleasures, "shopping" won hands down. Women just love to shop for themselves, their family and friends.

"For once, I put myself first," said one working mom, who looks forward to occasional shopping trips alone, after a busy week of work and family concerns. For some women, shopping is a form of pampering, relaxation and reward. "I usually get the urge to shop when I feel bad. For some reason, shopping lifts my senses and spirit. Shopping gives me a good pat in the back."

Imagine waking up one morning with only one agenda in mind—shopping. Not in the crowded halls of the *tiangges* but inside the posh, exclusive walls of Rustan's Makati. Forget about bringing the help, a number of counter staff will be assigned to assist you exclusively for that day. Best of all, you don't have to spend a single centavo. Your Red MasterCard from HSBC will be fully loaded with P500,000 of shopping credits.

In December 2001, one lucky qualified applicant of the Red MasterCard will get this once-in-a-lifetime shopping experience. From 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. that day, she will be the most important customer of Rustan's Makati, where she can shop to her heart's content.

The first credit card for women definitely understands women. Who can resist shopping anyway? You wouldn't even if you had to pay. But you don't have to, especially if you apply for a Red MasterCard from HSBC. Then, you will be just one step away from your ultimate shopping dream.

To my 5 year old daughter, I'm a brilliant teacher,

a caring nurse, a resourceful handyman,

a very careful driver and a fairly good cook.

Being a mom has its perks.

"I want to be adored."

It's all about being a woman.

Presenting the Red MasterCard from HSBC – the first credit card for women who have all the really important jobs.

For more info on the unique benefits of the first credit card exclusively for women, please call 878-7878. Application forms are available in major malls.

HSBC

YOUR WORLD OF FINANCIAL SERVICES

Issued by The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited

FROM left are Agnes T. Huibonhoa, Chief Executive Assistant to the VP; Rose Werhli, Vice President Teofisto Guingona, Edward Wehrli, US Consul General.

CONSUL General a.h. of Costa Rica Fausto Preysler Jr., former Ambassador to Spain Juan Rocha, the Vice President, and Ambassador Enrique Syquia of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta

The Secretary And The Consuls

DURING the Monthly Luncheon Meeting of the Consular Corps of the Philippines held last August 29, 2001 at the Mandarin Hotel, Vice President and Foreign Affairs Secretary, **Teofisto T. Guingona, Jr.** was the Guest Speaker. He spoke of the prominent role Consuls have played throughout history and their importance in today's diplomatic world. A Plaque of Appreciation was presented to and **Sec. Guingona** by Consul General a.h. of Costa Rica and Dean of the Consular Corps of the Philippines, **Fausto R. Preysler, Jr.** for his continuous support of the Corps objectives in promoting friendship among nations.

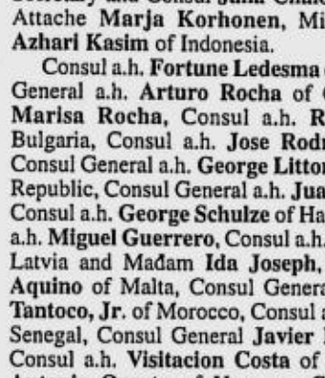
Notably present during the luncheon were DFA Assistant Secretary for Protocol Ambassador **Antonio P. Villamayor**, Office of the VP and DFA Secretary Chief Executive Assistant **Agnes T. Huibonhoa**, DFA Socials and Conference Arrangements Division Director **Senen Mangalile**, US Embassy Minister-Counsellor **John Caulfield**, US Consul General **Edward Wehrli** and Madam **Rose Wehrli**, Consul a.h. **Oscar de Venecia** of Ukraine, Consul a.h. **Vicente Carlos** of Cote D'Ivoire, First Secretary and Consul **Harald Ulbrich** of Austria, Consul **Graeme McGuire** of New Zealand and Madam **Evita McGuire**, First Secretary and Consul **Eva Verstraelen** of Belgium, First Secretary and Consul **Jana Chaloupkova**, Consular Attache **Marja Korhonen**, Minister Counsellor **Azhari Kasim** of Indonesia.

Consul a.h. **Fortune Ledesma** of Monaco, Consul General a.h. **Arturo Rocha** of Chile and Madam **Marisa Rocha**, Consul a.h. **Rene Ledesma** of Bulgaria, Consul a.h. **Jose Rodriguez of Bolivia**, Consul General a.h. **George Litton** of the Dominican Republic, Consul General a.h. **Juan Peña** of Estonia, Consul a.h. **George Schulze** of Haiti, Consul General a.h. **Miguel Guerrero**, Consul a.h. **Robert Joseph** of Latvia and Madam **Ida Joseph**, Consul a.h. **Paul Aquino** of Malta, Consul General a.h. **Bienvenido Tantoco, Jr.** of Morocco, Consul a.h. **Edward Go** of Senegal, Consul General **Javier Herrera** of Spain, Consul a.h. **Visitacion Costa** of Togo, Consul a.h. **Antonio Ozaeta** of Uruguay, Consul a.h. **Albert Awad** of Granada, Consul a.h. **Guilbert Go** of the Czech Republic (Davao) and Madam **Pacita Go**, Consul a.h. **Issan El-Debs** of Syria, Consul a.h. **Ramon Ilusorio** of Finland, Consul a.h. **George Yang** of Seychelles (Cebu), Vice Consul **John Aloia** of the US, First Secretary **Ziva Somech** and Second Secretary **Roi Drir** of Israel, Minister Counsellor **Peerasak Chantavarin** of Thailand, Head of Consular Section **Fadel Al-Hasan**, Consular Attache **Susana Cardiel** of Mexico, Counsellor **Leonty Mikahaylov** of Russia, Second Secretary and Head of Consular Section **Abdullah El-Mutairi** of Saudi Arabia, Counsellor **Steven Boh** of Singapore, Third Secretary **Irene Crona** of Sweden, Consul a.h. **Leonardo de Ocampo** of Oman, Head of Chancery **Francesco Ottolini**, Consular Attache **Manuela Ferrari** and **Christoph Bolliger** of Switzerland, First Secretary **Rahul Chabbra** of India, Vice Consul a.h. **Juan Antonio Carlos** of Cote D'Ivoire and Madam **Shiela Carlos**, Consul a.h. **Yao Eng Hue**, Consul a.h. **Eduardo de Guzman** of Gabon and Madam **Ane Miren A. Preysler**.

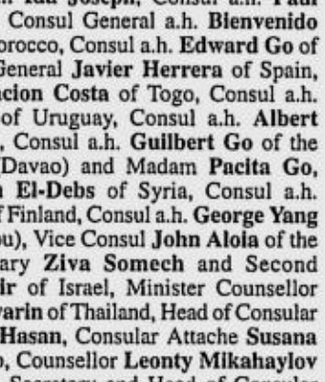
Plaques were also presented during the luncheon to former Philippine Ambassador to Spain, Ambassador **Juan Rocha** and Ambassador **Enrique Syquia**, Ambassador to the Sovereign Military Order of Malta for their years as active members of the Corps.

THE CONSULS a.h. of the Philippines

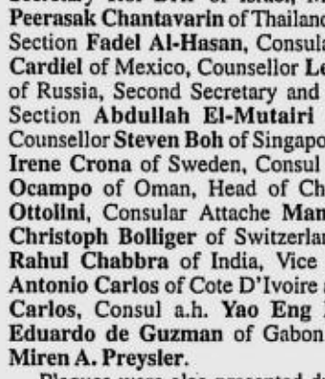
VARIOUS members of the Consular Corps of the Philippines



VICE president and Foreign Affairs Secretary Teofisto T. Guingona Jr. delivering his speech.



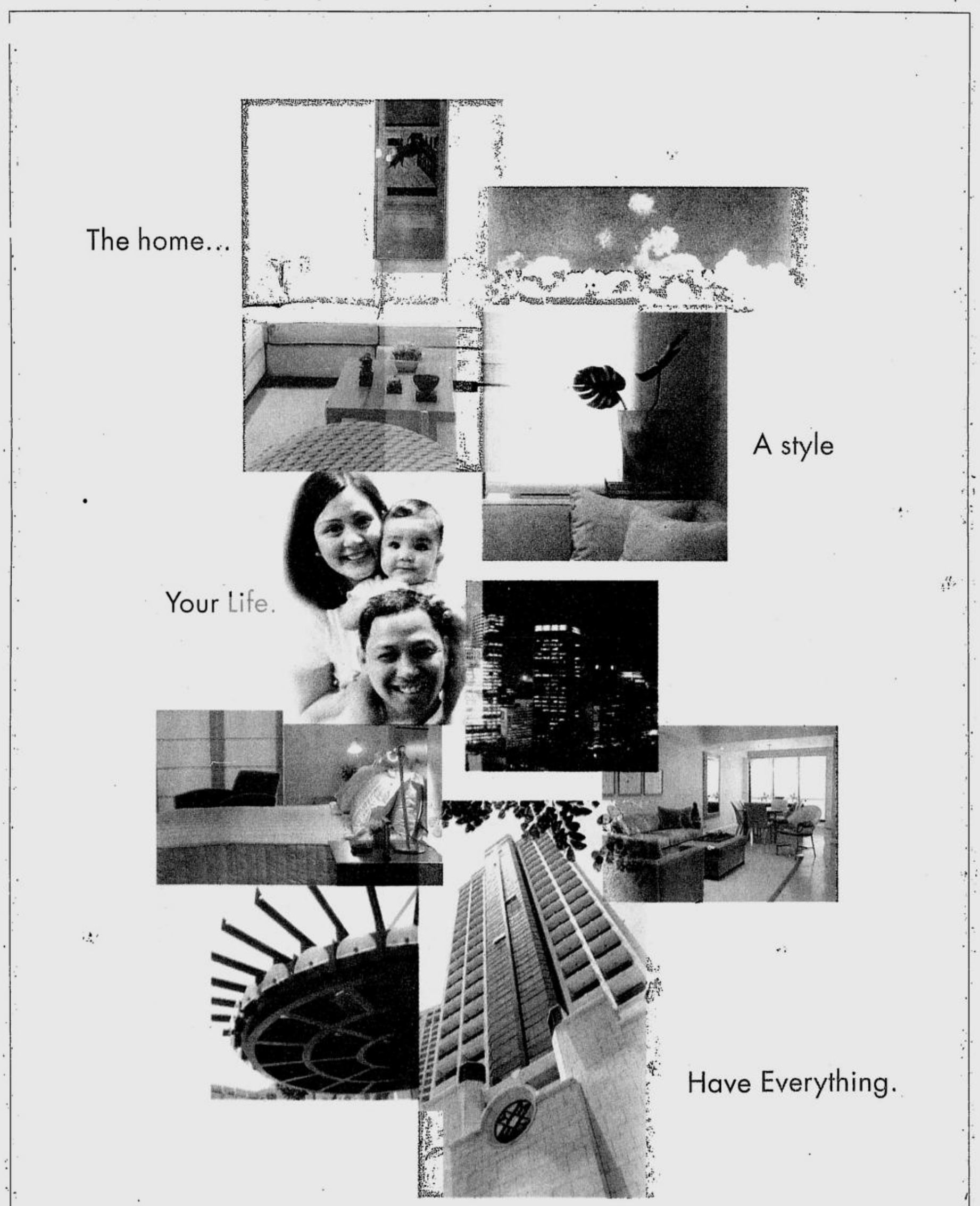
CONSUL General a.h. of Costa Rica Fausto R. Preyseler Jr.



AMBASSADOR Antonio P. Villamayor

VICE President and Foreign Affairs Secretary Teofisto T. Guingona Jr. receiving a Plaque of Appreciation from Fausto Preysler Jr., Consul General a.h. of Costa Rica

FROM left are Consul a.h. Vicente Carlos of Cote D'Ivoire, Consul a.h. Antonio Rufino of Mongolia, Consul General a.h. Dean Fausto Preysler, Jr. and Vice President Teofisto T. Guingona.



Shop like there's no tomorrow!

SPEND P500,000 IN ONE DAY!

Half a million pesos worth of shopping money,
but just one day to spend it all?

Not a problem.

"Now, I can shop for everything I've always desired."

It's all about being a woman.

Get a chance to spend P500,000 all in a single day at Rustan's Makati. Just sign up for the Red MasterCard from HSBC–the first credit card created exclusively for women. Visit any HSBC booth at your nearest shopping mall. See leaflets for more details. Call 878-7878 to apply.

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YOUR WORLD OF FINANCIAL SERVICES

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Talking Timbuktu

BY PACO DE BLAS

*How often have we heard the phrase "from here to Timbuktu..." Surprise, surprise, such a place exists in a country in Central Africa called the Republic of Mali. We are privileged to have as our guest contributor, a well-traveled citizen of the world, who now counts Timbuktu among his most interesting destinations. **Don Francisco (Paco) de Blas** is the current Cultural Director of the **Instituto Cervantes** here in Manila. **CSB***

The myth and grandeur of Timbuktu were built on salt and gold in the 16th century.

FOR hours, an old English Bedford crawls across the desert. At every bend and every hole, the truck seems to disintegrate with the road because of the load it carries. But no! It goes on and on until it reaches the **Niger River**, and stops at one of its branches to be transported to the other side by a barge. Animals and people crowd around the barge. This is the only transportation available for crossing the frontier between **Niger** and **Mali**.

At the sight of the city of **Gao**, the driver speeds the vehicle, weary of the 12 hours of driving. Then, at the last bend, the **Sahara's** sand grasps the wheels of the Bedford turning it over the soil. The goats jump, the bags blow up and we, the passengers do whatever we can.

My partner in the trip falls under one of the bags. Her back aches though it seems to be nothing serious. To the hospital! As she surveys the room where she is to stay she recovers speedily, frightened by the possibility of spending even a single hour of her life there. Word spreads quickly, two white persons in the accident. Then a sen dog, stranded in the sand of the desert, appears kindly offering his house. He is a French engineer who has spent more than twenty years in **Mali.** He recounts this tale:

*"I cannot go back to **France** anymore, I go there sometimes for holidays, then after a week, I no longer know what to do, I cannot get out of here."*

"How is life here?" we ask. *"Hard and futile, constructing roads that the desert will swallow up before they are finished."* He continues..."*We do not civilize anyone. We take advantage of what they have, and appease our conscience by believing that it is for their development, but it is for European development. We exhaust their lands using them for grazing cattle, fattened for the European markets. And they go on their way and look at these pictures."*

He proceeds to show us old pictures in black and white, taken at the moment when the blade chops the head of several men, who are bound to accompany their master in the other life, to serve him there as well as in this one. A testimony of recent times yet improbable today. Witness of an impossible intercultural exchange.

Gao is the city of the **Askia**, the dynasty ruling in the 16th century. They left a strange monument, a reminder of their grandeur: the tomb of the family.

THE MEN of Mali

An astonishing pyramid made of clay and bristling with threatening sticks. From **Gao** we start the descent down the **Niger River,** the father of **Africa,** the generous giver of the scanty wealth of these lands and their inhabitants, whose livelihood comes from the commerce between the ports. The encounter of these two giants of nature at **Gao,** the **Niger River** and the **Sahara Desert** gives rise to beautiful monsters like "the rose dune." An impressive mass of sand of that color, floating over the tranquil waters of the river.

Then we arrive at **Mopti**, an exciting city—happy and full of life. A life resulting from the trade of fish, which heaped up in the piers drying under the sun and charging the air with a smell the traveler will carry over several days. An impressive mosque presides over the social and religious life of the people. The children play and play in the **Niger,** always the source of life.

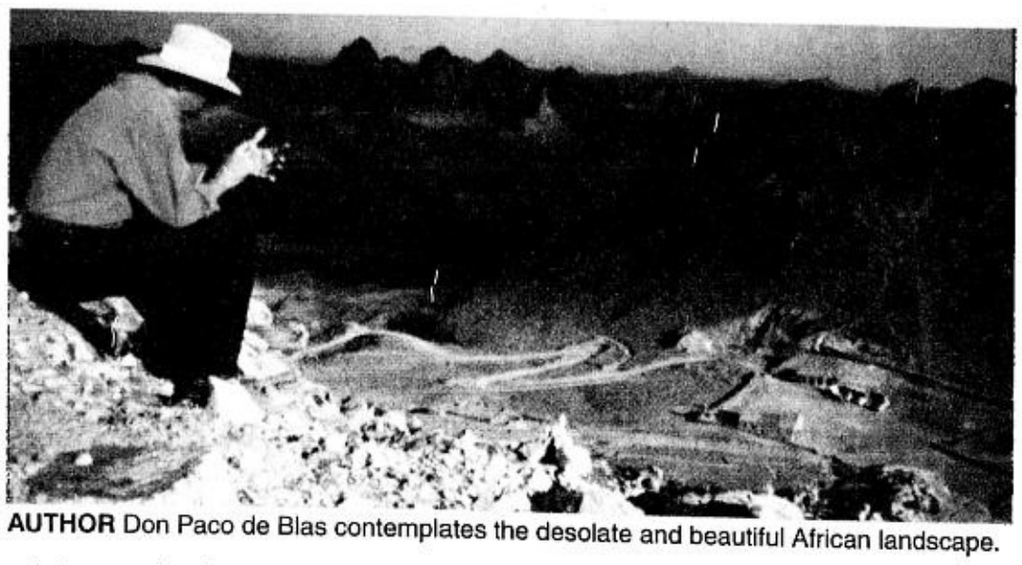
After some days navigating, enjoying the sailors' songs, the delicious grilled fish from the river and the art of an unexpected group of acrobats, that travels with us, we arrive at **Timbuktu.** It is not what it was anymore, what could I say? Nevertheless, it still inflames the traveler's imagination beyond its reality. **Palmira, Samarkand, Machu Picchu...Timbuktu.** Along the shore of the **Niger** there is a group of ramshackle houses extending into the interior, forming cramped passages, which in other times housed palaces and riches from all over Africa.

DOGONS

The myth and grandeur of **Timbuktu** were built on salt and gold, in the 16th century, when caravans of more than three thousand camels came from **Bilma**, at the other side of **Africa,** to supply salt for the whole **Western Africa**. At that time, powerful sultans, descendants of the Moors, fled from Spain. They started establishing their courts, and constructing mosques in honor of Allah. Still standing is the **Sidi** mosque,a testomony to the dignity of its inhabitants. Handsome elders with long beards, sitting at the threshold of their houses observing how time elapses. Let us kill time. **Timbuktu** is being swallowed by the desert.

From there, travelers of space and dreams, we leave in silence, without looking at each other we refuse to recognize that the trip was not worth it.

We are again in the barge that transports us to **Djenné**. Honestly speaking, it is the most beautiful city of the sub-Saharan Africa. The welcome sight of its mosque is a great reward for the traveler. Constructed in clay and in Sudanese style, it is slender and elegant, against the sunset. It reflection shines on the river in the golden twilight.



AUTHOR Don Paco de Blas contemplates the desolate and beautiful African landscape.

Traveling along the **Niger** is returning to the primordial fountains of life, to the merging of humans and nature, to those times when cities were constructed at the margins of the rivers, business and culture flowed across, and harmony between humans and nature was unavoidable.

Mali struggles now with the consequences of over-exploitation of the pastures, the rampant desertification, the lack of means to explore its mineral wealth (gold, bauxite and uranium.) It has a young population (40 percent of its inhabitants is not older than 15) allowing other wounds to affect the area, like the awful exploitation of child labor that has reduced its people to slavery. **Mali** is an agricultural country, where only 2 percent of the soil is cultivable land. It is one of the poorest countries of the world.

One stop at the capital—**Bamako**—where a group of Norwegian cooperative member, informs us about everything. **In Bamako**, you can find cold beer and good sandwiches, and it is easier to start a conversation. This is the only place where we can discern a country, since everything outside here is a conglomeration of different ethnic groups, confined within artificial boundaries under the whim of de-colonization. Before winning independence from **France**, in 1960, **Mali** was no more than a scene from fantastic cultural bazaar. The traveler's fate was to sort out reality from imagination. Knowledge is the aim, so one has to go on. It is to the accompaniment of the music of the most international of the **Malian** artist, **Ali Farka Toure**, that we hear as we arrive at the mountains of **Bandiagara**, a wall that rises unexpectedly from the plain shelters one of the most original African cultures: the **Dogons.**

The **Dogons** are animist. They never embraced **Islam** and were always persecuted. After a long pilgrimage at the beginning of the 16th century, they found these wild and remote land, which nobody seemed interested in, much less, expelling them from. After the French anthropologist **Marcel Griaule** established contact with them in the 1930s, the world was astounded by their deep knowledge of Astronomy.

It turns out that the **Dogons** already knew all about the influence of the sun over our planet. They knew perfectly well about the rings around **Saturn** and had detected a certain kind of minor planet of brown color next to **Sirius,** which the astronomers had never noticed before. The star of **Sirius** not only governed their original calendar (one of the four they use) with 66-year cycles, it also sent them the **"nommos,"** which are amphibious beings that came to our planet from afar to help humanity make such complicated calculations.

The scientists were excited! The **Dogons** had made contact with extraterrestrial beings, the only explanation for their sophisticated knowledge.

However, the reality can be more ordinary. **Carl Sagan** brought things back to order. Those certain **"nommos"** are mythical beings from the **Babylonian** culture, much closer and made accessible by migrations than the distant **Sirius**. The brown minor planet is nowhere to be seen, and their sophisticated knowledge is the result of an unrecorded contact with a European, which was handed down orally and later on, acquired mythical dimensions.

Bandiangara consists of plenty of small settlements hanging on the rocks, shaped in a spectacular architecture perfectly imitating the surrounding environment. Their traditions (including the celebrations of the year, every 66 years) are spectacular, full of color and sounds, adorned with their incomparable masks, already incorporated in the most sophisticated houses of **New York** or **London.**

It was August, the rainy season. We were caught by a storm and had to seek refuge in one of the villages at the forge, the community center of the **Dogon's** settlements, who are masters of metallurgy, thanks, of course to the teachings of the friendly visitors from **Sirius.** There was nothing to eat, and nothing to drink. One of our more talented hosts found a can filled with a distasteful looking paste. It was a honeycomb with the beeswax, which we ate by the handful. Quite replenishing, I can assure you!

There were stories translated by the tour guide. The man who faced the snake that was devastating the village; the need to seclude women in a special house during their periods of fertility; the initiation rites for the young; their confidence that their friends from **Sirius** would come back soon—this time to stay.

Soon the engines of the airplane churned, we were back to work and had a sneaky suspicion that maybe we really do not know as much as we think we know. That is the reason the traveler is always ready for a new adventure.

A VALENTINE'S day present, seven-month old Gabrielle Jude is the daughter of AFP Medical Officer Captain Bernadette Molina-Lizada, M.D., Ob-Gyne at the PMA Fort del Pilar Station Hospital in Baguio. Her dad, John T. Lizada is a mechanical engineer and supervisor at the Bauang Private Power Plant.

ANDRIAN Llantada Tan was born to Roschelle and James Patrick last May 20.

PHOTOS BY JAMPY TAN

THE YOUNGEST in the batch, Nathan Cabanayan Rilloraza was born May 30 to Christina Janell and Andrie.

BORN last May 12, Ethan Wilson Reever is the son of the former Jeanine Libatique and Wilson Apasen Jr.

The Secret World Of Infants

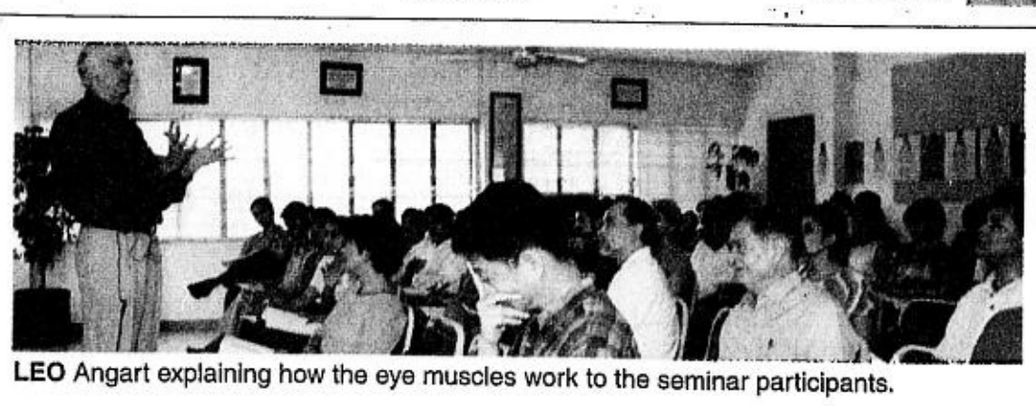
BY EDNA REYNOSO-ANTON

RAISING a family is one of life's greatest challenges, and the pleasure and satisfaction one derives in raising children, and watching them grow into fine adults is a wonderful joy and privilege one could ever hope for.

Not too long ago, these babies' parents were mere toddlers themselves, who also lived in their own secret world. Now, they are about to embark on a great adventure of bringing up another generation of children and turning them into exciting, stimulating, and responsible members of the community.

THE 23RD of May when Hanna Natasha first saw the light of day, is considered a special day for Natalie Villanueva and Richard Bernard Go.

LEO Angart with Dyords Javier during the "Vision: The Mind Side" seminar last July.



LEO Angart explaining how the eye muscles work to the seminar participants.

LEO Angart with Johnny Velasquez

See Without Glasses

DO YOU have to squint to see more clearly? Are you becoming more near-sighted or far-sighted with age? Would you like to do away with glasses or contact lenses, and have clear, healthy eyesight once again?

If so, then you are like **Leo Angart** in 1993 when he threw away his glasses. After wearing them for 20 years, his visibn had slowly deteriorated to a grade of 600. He felt that the glasses didn't treat the real source of his vision problems and that they were just a gradual, controlled way of delaying blindness. So he began to look for alternative ways of restoring eyesight. Combining his findings from several years of research, he came up with a treatment program that restored his eyesight in two weeks.

He recalls, "Initially, I stumbled to work without glasses and worked until after lunch before putting on my glasses again. However, after a week of doing this, I no longer needed glasses and I have not used them since."

Leo Angart has had 20/20 vision since 1994. He's refined his vision program over the years, incorporating the latest research and techniques. It's called "Vision: The Mind Side," and Leo now conducts it in over a dozen countries around the world. He'll be teaching it in Manila on the weekend of Sept. 15 and 16.

The essence of the vision treatment program is its holistic approach. Contrary to what most people believe, clear eyesight is not a function of age. It is the result of the following elements, all of which are thoroughly covered in the workshop.

Eye muscles. When you wear corrective lenses, your eye muscles do not get used as much as they normally would. They become lax which explains why people need to increase the grade of their glasses. Strengthening the eye muscles restores normal vision. This is based on the work of the famous opthalmologits, **William Bates.**

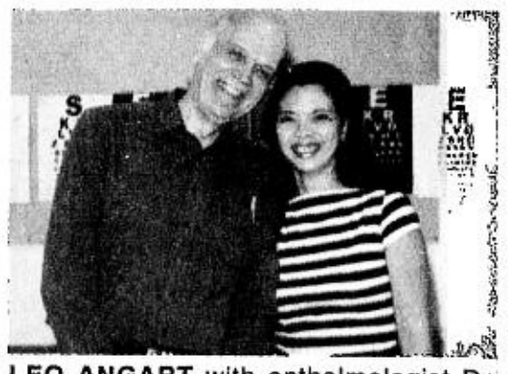
Energy. Easy-to-learn techniques allow you to harness *prana* or *chi*, and to quickly remove eye strain and project new energy into the vision mechanism.

Visualization. Visualization and relaxation exercises are essential in removing eye strain and retaining the visual system to function normally.

Beliefs. Limiting beliefs act like programs sending instructions from the brain to the eyes to adjust the "settings" for vision. The workshop contains exercises for clearing your mind of limiting beliefs, which paves the way to rapid recovery of vision.

"It is my conviction that no one needs to wear any lens or other corrective lenses," says **Leo Angart.** "For the cost of a new pair of glasses, you can learn how to regain normal, healthy eyesight permanently. Why take the risk with laser treatment when you learn a natural way to restoring your sight?"

"Vision: The Mind Side" will be offered in Manila on Sept. 15 and 16. To receive more information or to make reservations, contact Maurice or Monika Cruz at NLP Philippines, Inc. at 890-6086 or e-mail at *maurice@i-manila.com.ph.*



LEO ANGART with opthalmologist Dr. Carmela Isabela during the seminar.

PHOTOS BY JAMES BORGAILY

THE WOMEN who find joy in smocking. From left are the author, Jeanne Odio, Tess Tionko, Leni Serafin, instructor Joy Nathan, Milet Borgaily, Joanna Merecader and Lois Youngman.

"SWEETHEART" dress of pastel floral prints smocked and sewn to perfection by Marta Padilla and modeled by pretty Edit.

AS PRETTY as the pink flowers in the dress "Rosebud," smocked and sewn by Joy Nathan, is little model Janina.

COOL citrus delight in "Lemonade" executed by Tess Tionko and modeled by Elisabet.

PICTURE-SMOCKING in the romper "The Train Lover" made by Joy Nathan and modeled by baby Nathaniel.

BABY Elaine wears "Strawberry," a bishop dress made by Jeanne Odio on white cotton with tiny red polka dots.

There's Joy In Smocking!

BY FE R. DACUDAO

A GROUP of Davao ladies discovered the joys of smocking, upon learning this new skill. Under the patient supervision of their gifted instructor, Australian needleworker **Joy Nathan**, the class increased their knowledge and reached a high standard of achievement.

Joy Nathan and her supportive husband **John** have lived in Davao for 18 months. During her stay, **Joy** conducted classes in the art of smocking and heirloom sewing. Long-time Davao resident **Jeanne de Odio** recognized **Joy's** talent and encouraged her to start teaching other ladies living in Davao.

As a fitting finale before **Joy's** departure, she and her students presented, "A Children's Fashion Parade" at the lovely home of **Habib** and **Milet Borgaily**. Babies and little girls modeled close to 35 garments, all exquisitely smocked, richly embroidered and intricately sewn, close to perfection. The pieces, made of assorted plain and printed cotton fabrics, ranged from casual to elegant, charming to lavish, simple to divine. The choice of material, the combination of colors, and the exciting smocking patterns, not to mention the masterful execution, contributed to the magical creations of the ladies.

During the exhibition some of the students also demonstrated aspects of smocking and heirloom sewing to give guests a greater appreciation of the skills involved. The class consisted of Davao women—**Leni Serafin, Tess Tionko, Joanna Mercader** and myself. Also included ladies from four countries—**Jeanne de Odio** from Costa Rica, **Marta Padilla** from Honduras, **Lois Youngman** from the US, and **Milet Borgaily** from a Lebanese family, making the class a mini-United Nations of women. They have combined to learn new skills and at the same time have developed new friendships and share many happy moments.

Smocking was developed in the mid-15th century as an undergarment embellishment favored by the "upper class." English smocking as taught by **Joy** is among the world's most enduring form of needlework.

The English aristocracy wore smocked garments for their intricate beauty. The smock was a garment made popular as a practical overgarment used by laborers in the period preceding the industrial revolution. When the new industrial machines and their proliferation of moving parts made smocks unsafe for workwear, smocking was then reclaimed by the wealthy for fashionable dressing.

Today, due to easy care fabrics and the pleating machine, smocking is once again finding favor. It is used mostly for the enhancement of children's garments and is found in the more exclusive boutiques.

Now the children of **Davao**, and eventually **Mindanao**, can enjoy the clothing of the rich and famous, because a dedicated teacher named **Joy** and her group of talented students have revived the skills needed to create masterpieces usually found only in specialty shops of the major cities of the world. Finding joy in smocking, these ladies will gladly share their gorgeous needlework with a great number of parents and grandparents wishing to buy lavishly embroidered dresses with stunning embellishments. Soon this smocking group will make exquisite garments available to discriminating would-be customers.

A CHILDREN'S parade of dainty smocked creations.

Huggies Launches Promo With Little Tikes

HUGGIES Disposable Diapers recently launched its latest promo with Little Tikes Toys. Customers with corresponding Huggies points can avail of a 50 percent discount on selected Little Tikes Toys.

The promo will run until Dec. 31 while redemption is valid until March 1, 2002. Little Tikes is a multinational manufacturer and marketer of high-quality innovative children's products.

Among the Little Tikes premium items up for grabs are the "Swing Along Climber," "Little 3-in-1 Sports Set," "Studio Design Table and Chairs," "Roar 'n Rev Monster Truck," "All-in-One Wagon," "Electric Shot Clock Basketball," "Little Landscaper Harden Hand Tools & Watering Cans" and the "Sleepytime Express Toddler Bed."

To avail of the 50 percent discount, moms just need to collect Huggies Dry Comfort, Huggies Dri-Fit, Huggies Ultra Trim, Goodnites or the new Pull-Ups Training Pants wrappers. Each product pack collected earns the customer corresponding points for the promo.

To place the orders, customers should first get and fill out an order form and submit it together with the required Huggies points and the correspqnding amount. By simply doing this, the customer instantly acquires Little Tikes Toys of their choice.

For immediate redemption, customers can go directly to the Little Tikes showrooms located at SBRC Bldg. #33 Shaw Blvd. Ortigas Center, Pasig City or Sterling Place, 2302 Pasong Tamo Ext. Makati City and submit the requirements.

So collect those Huggies wrappers now and get this rare chance to own Little Tikes Toys at 50 percent discount. For more details, see posters and print ads.

® Registered Trademark of Kimberly-Clark Corporation, U.S.A.
Improved HUGGIES Dry Comfort with Snug-Fit Waistband. Say goodbye to leaks!
HUGGIES Dry Comfort L24

The New Filipina (Can she really have it all?)

Is it possible to juggle one's personal needs, a family life and career without leaving one or the other wanting? Can a woman really have it all?

BY RIA ROMERO

EVE started it all. She showed us how our bodies were made unique. We have bosoms, hips and an essence to nurture and breath life into another individual. We are thinkers, scientists, artists, homemakers, presidents, partners and lovers. We are women. The 21th century has brought with it a chance for us to hope, dream, create and pursue all that we are passionate about.

Is it possible to juggle one's personal needs, a family life and career without leaving one or the other wanting? Can a woman really have it all? Or does she have to scrape, plow and survive big dramas in order to reach pure enlightenment and balance?

I asked five dynamic women of diverse careers their thoughts on these issues.

The Master Builder

Rola Orosa-Vizmonte, 36 years old
Architect
Married to Luis Arnel Vizmonte for 12 years
Mother to Kristianne- 11 years, Gabrielle- 8 years, Juan Luis-3 years old and Diego, 9 months old

ROLA'S fresh enthusiasm towards family, career and life is infectious. Her day begins at 6 am to get **Gabrielle** and **Juan Luis** up and ready for school. The family has breakfast together.

Her office is also her home. She is an architect and designs spaces in the malls and also does interior works for condominiums and homes.

Rola deals with carpenters, electricians, painters and laborers, men whose aim is to provide for the basic necessities of their families. She says, "As iron sharpens iron, man shapes man, there is a lot to learn from them."

Rola revolves her work schedule around her children, and in fact, if one of them is sick she will cancel and reset appointments. They are her priority. One very important lesson that I've learned in terms of accepting projects is to be wise in choosing them. Not all open doors of opportunities are for you. In the long run you want to give your client the best service and to never have to compromise the work.

Another advantage **Rola** has is she gets to work with her husband because he is a contractor. She and her husband make it a point to have at least one 'date' night a week. "We either go out and dine or watch a movie. This is the time we talk about the things, which concern our children, the day's events and us. He is my best friend."

Rola says, "Success is very subjective. We are often judged by the clothes we wear, or the things we have, or the kinds of cars we ride in. As for me I believe I am continually succeeding in my life not only because of the career that I have, but also because of the important relationships I have. I have a husband who accepts and loves me unconditionally and children who are my constant source of joy."

ROLA Orosa-Vizmonte

Rola says her life is far from being perfect, but she strives to keep her priorities in sight so she doesn't loose track of what really matters. "I am first a wife, second a mother, then an architect. It is possible to balance motherhood and career not because I'm good at it but because I know the unmerited favor and love of God flows in my life, his grace! His grace is available to anyone who asks."

The Industrialist

Malu Ignacio-Mauleon, 30 years old
Vice-President for Operations, Unirock Corporation
Married to Carl Mauleon for 6 years
Mother to Billie-4, and Zoe-2 years old

Malu says, "As a mother I make sure my children have everything they need, like food, clothes and milk. Although I can't really give them as much time as I would like to and should, I try to make up for it by taking them out, watching TV, playing, eating, doing crazy things with them. And when they get sick, I make it a point that I don't leave until they are well.

She tries to be sensitive to the needs of her husband **Carl**, and admits to occasionally falling short at times. **Malu** says," I try to be there for him whenever he needs me." She honestly, thinks their relationship is not yet as successful as she would like it to be. I never fail to thank the **Lord** for my husband and for the unconditional love He has given both of us. Trust and respect are two of the very important things in any relationship. But basically, the secret is keeping the faith."

Malu wishes she could have more patience, as it is a sign of ones maturity. She says, "I learned that you should take things a day at a time. Be sensitive to the needs and feelings of the people around you, more so of your family. No matter how hectic your work schedule is, give time to your family, friends, and most of all, to yourself. Prioritize what needs to be done but always consider the pros and cons of every decision you make. Do your best always."

MALU Ignacio-Mauleon

The Fashion Fiend

Anna Margarita S. Cruz, 24 years old
Assistant Fashion & Style Editor, Young Star Magazine
Co-owner of In-Fashion Boutique
Partner to Manolet Dario for 3 years
Mother to Anna Tamara-1 year and 8 months

ANNA always makes sure that she has a good moment with her daughter **Tamara**.

"My job isn't a 9 to 5 job. The work hours vary. My day usually starts at 10 a.m. and ends at 6 p.m. But if I have a shoot my day starts between 7 to 8 a.m. and ends after lunch or sometimes even midnight." She tries to balance things out by doing one or the other. "If I decide to go to one of **Mano's** gigs on a weekday, that means that I won't see **Tamara**. So I try to go to work a little later so that I get to spend time with her."

Disciplining their daughter is left to her, she adds "Maybe because **Mano** doesn't live with **Tamara** and sees less of her, he just can't seem to scold her. **Tamara** can get very naughty even if she's just one year and eight months old."

Her relationship with her partner, who is a DJ by profession, is based on their finding quality time for one another. **Anna** says, "It gets difficult at times because I work during the day and he works at night, but we somehow manage. **Mano** and I stay home and watch TV whenever he doesn't have a gig. When I don't have to wake up early the next day, I try to support him and go to his gigs."

Anna chills out by going to the salon or reading a good book. Sometimes, she'll head for the gym or on a good night, enjoys partying with friends all night long!

Anna's spunky advice, "Make the most out of your precious time! For people on the go, every second counts! Always know how to prioritize things that mean the most to you and don't forget to always have fun in everything you do!"

ANNA Cruz

CHRISTINE Romero with Lance and Zandro

The Frequent Flyer

Christine Mercado-Romero, 33 years old
Philippine Airlines Flight Attendant
Married to Mikko Romero for 8 years
Mother to Zandro-8, and Lance-3 years old

THE GRUELING schedule of a flight attendant can be hard on the family. A regional flight may have Christine away for twelve hours. But if it is an international flight she can be out of the country for five days at a time. "I have a monthly schedule that comes out every 26th. We have a bidding system so it is easier for us to be off on certain days like birthdays and PTA meetings. It's important I know my schedule, plan it way ahead of time and before the 15th of the month, because that is the start of the bidding for the next month."

But as **Christine** has found the ultimate S.N.A.G. (Sensitive, New-Age, Guy) in **Mikko**, she counts herself as truly lucky. Theirs is a partnership of shared responsibility when it comes to home, staff and needs of the children. "I'm often out on long flights, I have a supportive spouse who compensates for the things a wife/mother can't do especially with my job. A good partnership is key."

"There's not much adjustment from my husband because he was once a flight attendant himself so he understands the rigors of the job and the time I have to put in. Whenever I'm home, we go out on dates, watch a movie, dance in our living room and drink red wine." Is there a secret to their relationship? **Christine** says, "Secret? There's no secret at all. Just natural respect and love for each other."

Christine smartly advises women, "Find a supportive husband who can manage household help, go to market, budget, pay the bills and attend PTA meetings."

The Entrepreneur

Bubbles Bermudez Aguilar, 24 years old
General Manager of Liam Food Corporation, (which handles 4 Hen Lin Franchises);
Owner of Silver Spice Catering Services
Married to Alvin Aguilar for 4 years
Mother to Liam-3 years and 10 months old

BUBBLES is up and moving at 8 a.m. to send her son **Liam** to school. She then assists her husband, **Alvin** who trains jiu-jitsu, with the preparations for the new martial arts gym he is opening in Makati. Work doesn't require for her to be in early and there is no fixed schedule. Flexibility then, is key in her life. **Bubbles** says, "We're opening another outlet in Robinson's Cainta, Rizal, so work has been more hectic these days."

BUBBLES Aguilar with Liam

She makes sure that she is able to handle the needs of her family. She also says, "I guess it's not so much of a choice, rather it is something a wife and mother is obligated to do. No matter how tired you are from a full day at work one must find time to respond to the demands of the home."

Communication plays a vital role in her relationship and marriage. **Bubbles** says, "My husband usually has a hard time communicating with me especially when he feels bad about something I said or did. That is why I constantly remind him to open up and not keep everything to himself, so we don't have any conflicts with each other."

Bubbles wishes to have more discipline and sense of responsibility. "Being a young wife and mother I feel I need to improve on so many things. Being sensitive to the needs of others and not just mine is what keeps me balanced and focused."

Her advice to young wives, "Remember that one can never have it all. If you think that you have pretty much achieved most of the things you dreamed of, learn to be satisfied."

Filipinos Living in Singapore

TEXT AND PHOTOS BY RIA STA.MARIA

Singapore is home to more and more Filipinos especially in the recent years. Of the three million inhabitants in **Singapore**, 500,000 are foreign workers, of which 12,000 are Filipino professionals.

I have been living in **Singapore** for a year now because my husband is based here for IBM. I interviewed five friends to talk about living and working in Singapore

Good mix of East and West

Triccie Luchangco, Investment banker

Triccie and I have known each other since I was four. We met here in **Singapore** when both our dads were on assignment for SGV in the seventies. And now, we've come full circle. We're both back in **Singapore**, the place that introduced us to chopsticks, sugarcane juice and *char kway teow*.

VIBOY and Camille Genuino

Triccie has been a private banker for Goldman Sachs for six years. She has made **Singapore** her home for a little over five years now. After graduating from the Ateneo de Manila, **Triccie** pursued her masters at the Kellogg Graduate School of Management, Northwestern University, and soon after, landed a job with Goldman to be based in **Singapore**.

Triccie appreciates the fact that **Singapore** is a very safe place to live in. Even if she works till midnight, taking a cab at that ungodly hour does not worry her. Also the ever-efficient Changi airport and even Singapore Airlines somehow make her travels easy and even a pleasure, she says.

Living and working in **Singapore** has proved ideal for **Triccie**. "It's a good mix between east and west, developed and developing cultures, an opportunity to meet people from all walks of life, from all over the world," she enthuses. There is a reservoir of things to discover! The Singaporeans are fond of saying, "Can, lah. No worries, lah!"

Among players and achievers

Bibo Pefianco, trader, Cargill Int'l Trading Pte Ltd

Except for a brief assignment in Manila, Bibo has had the opportunity of working in both Singapore and Geneva in the last 10 years. After graduating from the Ateneo de Manila and working for a year with a manufacturing company, Bibo pursued further studies at Ohio State University. Bibo has been working as a commodities trader for Cargill, one of the biggest privately owned companies in the US,for 10 years now. At 35, Bibo has been living in Singapore for the last three years.

DEE Jurilla

For someone who likes to work hard and party hard, an environment like Singapore fits Bibo just fine. He can name all the hip bars and cool places to go. He can never run out of stories to tell about the place. "The best part though," he says, " is the opportunity of hanging out with people of different nationalities, race and class. In Singapore The conversation always hinges on future plans and that's refreshing. That's when you know you are among players and achievers and not life's opinionated spectators."

Hassle-free adjustment

Viboy & Camille Genuino, both 29, Viboy is General Manager, South East Asia, Sendo Int'l Ltd

Married only for two and a half years, Viboy and Camille have effortlessly blended into the Singapore scene. "Adjusting to life in Singapore was much easier than either of us expected," says Camille. "In Singapore everything can be done over the phone! Even applying for a new bank account, credit card, cell phone line can be done in one sitting! It's just so easy! At the same time, paying bills never had so many options. The bill comes with a postage paid envelope where you can just stick in your check and drop it at any post office. The best part is you're sure it will get to them! You can also pay via the internet and even more high tech is that your bills can be attached to your bank account so it automatically gets debited every month. It's great how they made everything so convenient for everyone!"

If there's anything Camille appreciates most, however, it's the quality of time she has with Viboy. "At first, we found ourselves with so much time on our hands after being used to juggling lunch, dinner and going to church with our respective families, squeezing in children's parties, weddings and other activities in between. But then we began to, and continue to enjoy the control we have of our time. In a very big way, this has helped bring us closed and deepen our relationship as a couple."

Note: We recently found out that Viboy's job will have the couple relocating to Hong Kong next month.

Closer to home

Dee Jurilla, 33, Manager, Exxon Mobil

Immediately after graduating from Assumption High School in 1986, Dee set her sights on pursuing a degree in Computer Engineering and Math in Smith College, long known for being one of the best women's colleges in Northampton, Massachusetts. After five years of working in Boston with several companies, Dee decided to pursue her MBA at MIT Sloan School of Management.

With her new role as Market Segment Manager, Dee's next assignment was to be based in the Asian regional headquarters in Singapore. Dee has been living in Singapore for the last 17 months as a US expat.

Dee keeps long hours at work and does a lot of travelling around the region but she vowed this year to strike a balance between work and "having a life." And having a life means going to the gym at least once a week, visiting her favorite pub, Harry's Bar in Boat Quay every Friday night and driving to Malaysia every Sunday for a round of golf. One advantage of living in Singapore is that it has brought her closer to home, "Although my mom still thinks I should visit more often!" she says.

Pursuing life's passions

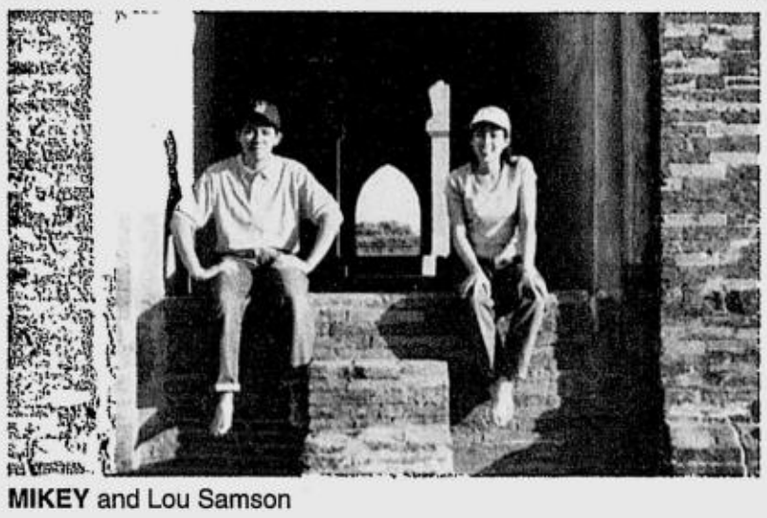
Mikey and Lou Samson, both 30, Mikey is an AVP at ABN-AMRO and Lou is Marketing Manager with Dell Computers

This is one couple who share the same interests and have the same goals in life. There is no division of labor in this case, what one knows, the other knows just as well . . . except maybe for the cooking department. Mikey and Lou were college buddies that transformed into "more than friends" that eventually led to the altar.

After graduating from the Ateneo de Manila in 1992, they both wanted to gain work experience before pursuing their masteral degrees. In 1996, Mikey left for Wharton in Philadelphia while Lou opted to study at the Kellogg Graduate School of Management, Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois. After being together for seven years, they got married in December 1997 in Manila.

Even before graduating from business school, Mikey was offered a job with ABN-AMRO based in Singapore. So in August 1998, Mikey and Lou made Singapore their home away from Home with Lou eventually finding a job with Dell Computers.

For Mikey and Lou, Singapore has given them the opportunity to pursue their common interests. They recently picked up photography and found it blended very nicely with their other passion—travel. "Travel is so easy from Singapore. With so many flights passing through Changi Airport, it's so easy to plan a trip. Living here opened our eyes to visiting more exotic places like Myanmar, Cambodia, and Nepal. We now travel to see the world around us and to capture its beauty with a snapshot," says Lou.



MIKEY and Lou Samson

BIBO Pefianco

TRICCIE Luchangco

Could Mommy's skin be as soft as her Baby's?

The ideal skin

Every mother will tell you that there is no skin as soft as a baby's. It is smooth, supple and young...the kind of skin every woman would like to have. A baby's skin needs no make up to enhance it! Baby soft skin is beautiful skin! It is ideal skin every grown-up woman dreams of having, that's why she spends a lot of money on moisturizers, lotions, creams and other skin regiments that promise to give her clear, soft and smooth skin.

A baby cream that's perfect for Moms

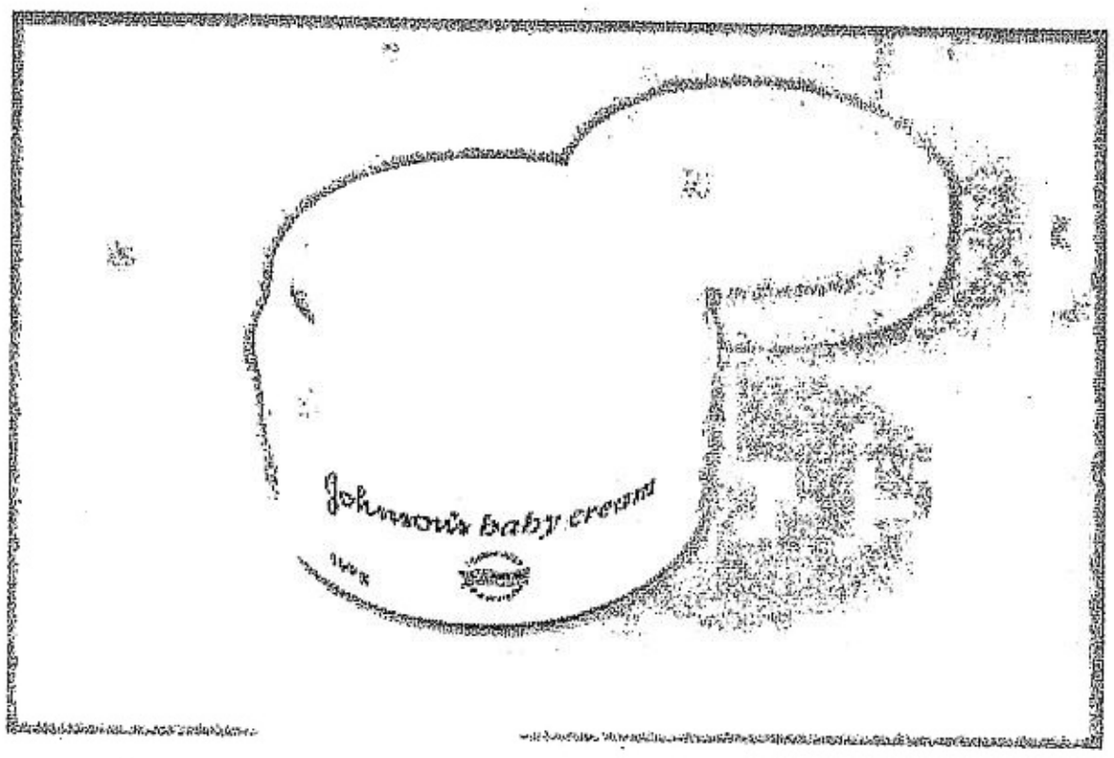
Now, the promise of youthful baby soft skin is closer than you can imagine with the introduction of new Johnson's Baby Cream!

Unlike other facial creams in the market, Johnson's Baby Cream is the only moisturizing cream for mom with a Clinically Proven Mild formula. Mothers love it because of its light, creamy and non-greasy feel, making it ideal to use anytime of the day.

CLINICALLY MILDNESS PROVEN®

Softness...in seconds!

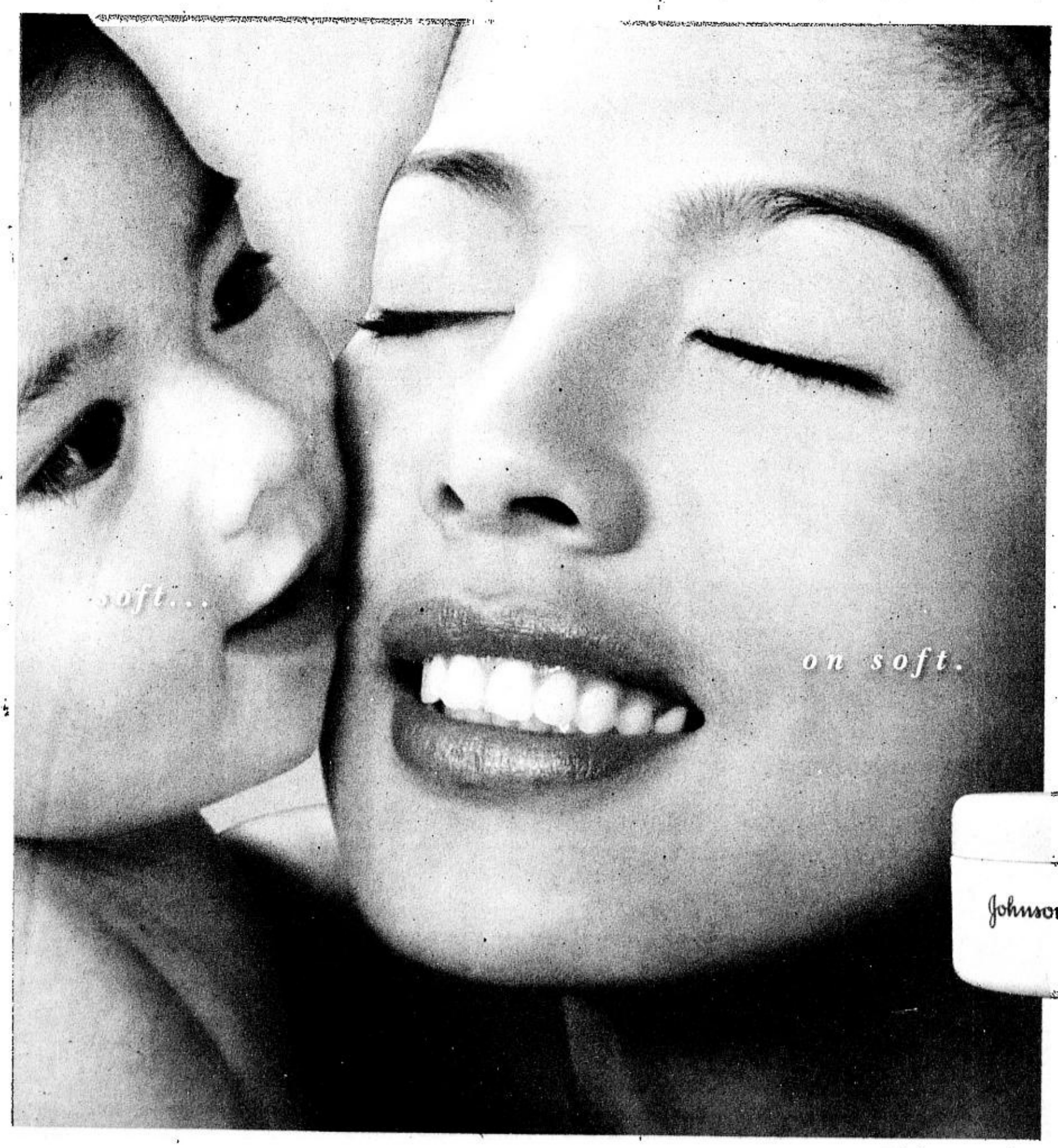
Johnson's Baby Cream has a fast-absorbing formula that will give you baby-soft skin in seconds! Now you don't have to wait long, or take a good night's sleep before you see and feel the beautiful difference.



A new standard of softness

Soft skin takes on a new standard with Johnson's Baby Cream: it is no longer enough to have soft skin...it has to be *baby soft!* As one satisfied Mom aptly puts it, "it babies my skin!". Johnson's Baby Cream promises to help retain skin moisture leaving every Mommy's face feeling soft and smooth as a baby's!

ADVT.



Now, feel the softness of baby skin on your face with Johnson's Baby Cream.

Could your skin be as soft as your baby's? Smooth on Johnson's Baby Cream and feel the baby softness and smoothness... in seconds!

New Johnson's Baby Cream. Clinically Proven Mild for baby... perfect for you!

Johnson&Johnson

"Something sophisticated. Something blue.
Find out what a little bit of satin can do for you."

let's talk

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EXCLUSIVELY AVAILABLE FROM YOUR AVON LADY AND AT AVON STORES AT SM MEGAMALL, SOUTHMALL, SM MANILA, ALI MALL AND GLORIETTA. FOR INQUIRIES IN METRO MANILA CALL: 864-2900; PROVINCIAL TOLL-FREE 1-800-1-888-2866. E-MAIL: helpdesk.ph@avon.com

Nothing comes close to the gentle embrace of second-skin like Avon Fashions' satin masterpiece, the Estelle Coordinates. Alluring blue and cream wildflowers bloom against luxurious sliver-gray satin. It's a look so sophisticated, it's almost a shame to cover it up with clothes. Designed to create sensuous curves, the Estelle bra has an underwire frame to enhance your cleavage, while the relaxed fit of the hi-leg panty provides comfort with every move. Avon Fashions' Estelle Coordinates. It's amazing what a little bit of satin can do for you.

MEMBER

Treat of the Week

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2001 PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER D

SaturdaySPECIAL

NESTOR U. TORRE, Editor EDMUND L. SICAM, Associate Editor

Fruity Cream Dip

1 170g. can NESTLÉ CREAM
2/3 cup chopped red apple
1/4 cup chopped pineapple, well drained
1/2 tsp. curry powder
1/2 tsp. garlic powder
1/2 tsp. salt
1/4 cup grated cheddar cheese

Combine NESTLÉ CREAM with the rest of the ingredients in a blender. Chill. Serve as a dip for slices of fresh fruits.

Watch out for next week's fruity treat!

US movies, TV shows with terror plots face uncertain future

BY ANTHONY BREZNICAN

LOS ANGELES—Real-life terrorism has led Hollywood executives to postpone at least two movies and consider rescheduling other films and TV shows that involve terrorist plots against Americans.

NBC announced it would push back the start of its new fall TV season, set to begin Monday, at least one week, regardless of the show content. Other networks were considering similar delays.

Indefinite postponement

Warner Bros. will indefinitely postpone the release of Arnold Schwarzenegger's latest film, "Collateral Damage," in which a terrorist bombs a Los Angeles skyscraper. It was to have debuted Oct. 5.

The Tim Allen comedy "Big Trouble," in which one scene involves a bomb on a plane, was also pulled from its Sept. 21 release by Disney's Touchstone Pictures.

Both studios said they acted out of respect for victims of the terror attacks Tuesday in New York, Washington and Pennsylvania.

"Our thoughts and prayers are with those affected by this terrible tragedy," said Touchstone spokeswoman Vivian Boyer.

Website disconnected

Warner Bros. said it would retrieve all commercials, posters and ads for "Collateral Damage" and disconnect its website, all of which feature phony newspaper headlines about the fictional attack.

US/ p.D2

NBC announced it would push back the start of its new fall season

Nag Wilma Tapalla Ka Na Ba?

Enroll in a Package - P 2,300 Per Course Only!
• **Speech Dynamics** Develop & Master Oral Skills
Wed. 9-11AM or Saturdays 9-11AM or Sundays 8:30-10:30AM
• **Practical Grammar & Conversations**
Fluency and Mastery of the English Language
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• **Public Speaking & Confidence Building**
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(From 3 to 12 years old)
(With 7 Areas of Concentration : Speech, Theater Arts, Grammar, English Fluency, Reading & Comprehension, Character Bldg. & Personality Development)
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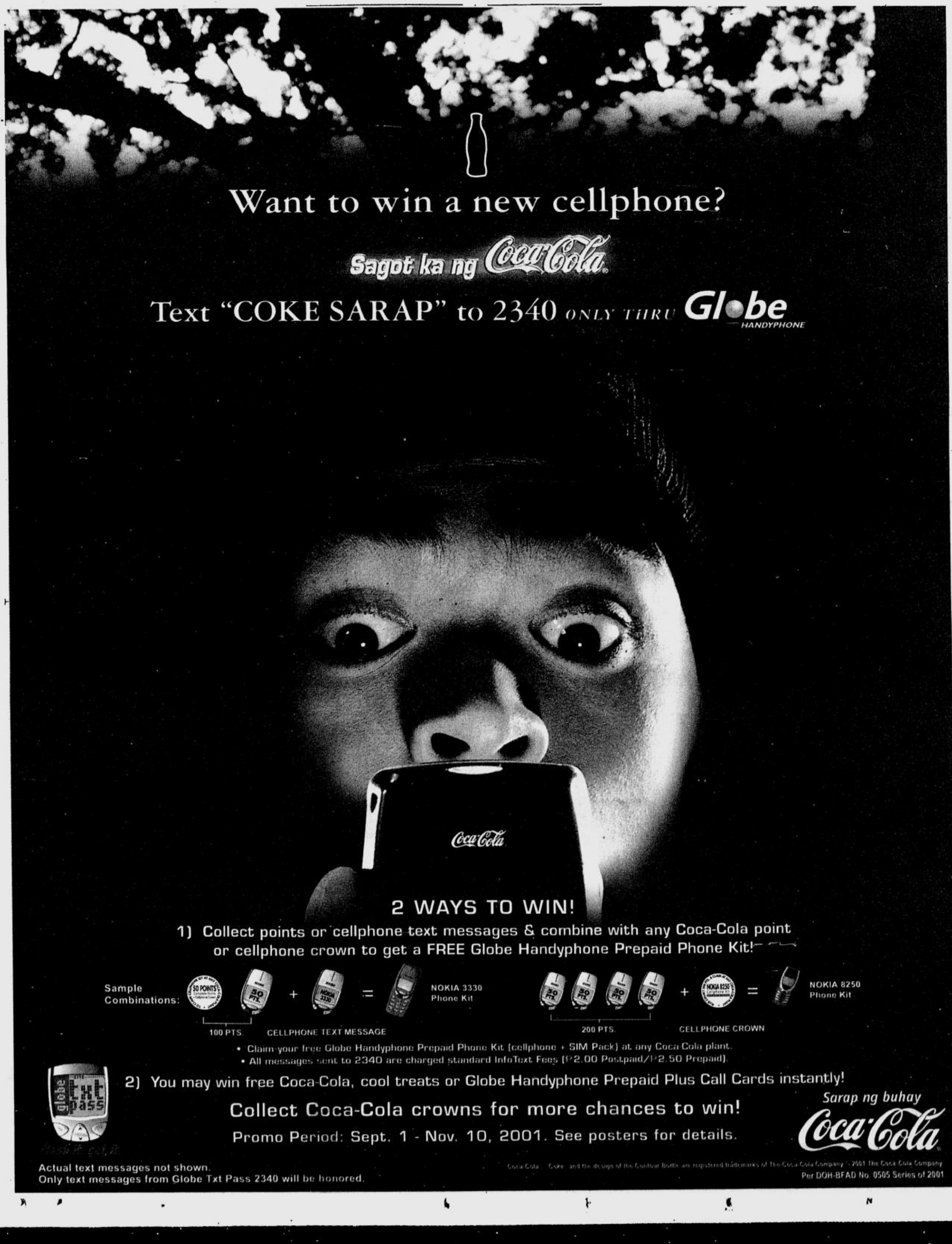
SINCE 1967
GREENHILLS — 55 Annapolis St. — 722-5620, 722-5627



US movies, TV shows with terror plots face uncertain future

SCHWARZENEGGER'S "Collateral Damage" has been postponed indefinitely.

AN ALIEN spaceship prepares to attack New York in "ID4."

(From page D1)

As for television, the biggest networks—ABC, CBS and NBC and Fox—canceled all programming and commercials after the attacks for round-the-clock news coverage. They planned to stay with the story continuously at least through Wednesday.

ABC canceled a showing Saturday of the movie "The Peacemaker," about nuclear terrorists, and replaced it with the romance "Hope Floats."

Fox replaced broadcasts of "The X-Files" movie Friday and the film "Independence Day" on Sunday with the comedies "Nine Months" and "Mrs. Doubtfire," respectively, spokesman Scott Grogin said.

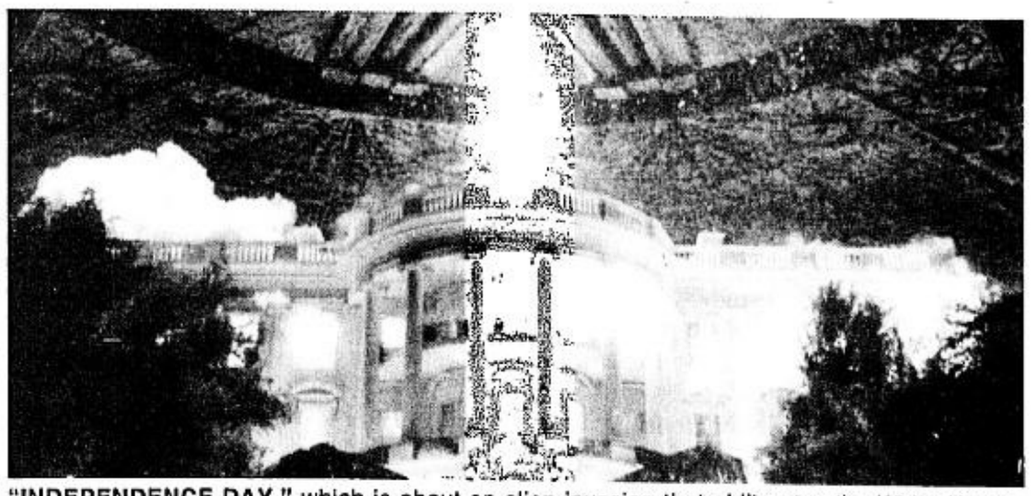
In "Independence Day," the White House and Empire State Building blow up.

More family-oriented shows

Fox feared such scenes could disturb many viewers. "We're looking at programming that is more family-oriented so people can watch it together," Grogin said.

On one Fox drama just six months ago, the World Trade Center was threatened. The premiere of the series "The Lone Gunmen" featured a US government plot to boost arms sales by crashing an airliner into one of the towers, then blaming terrorists.

Scenes from the cockpit showed the struggle to disengage the plane's suicidally-programmed navigational system. The plane managed to clear the tower by inches.



"INDEPENDENCE DAY," which is about an alien invasion that obliterates the White House, and other institutions, was replaced by a comedy.

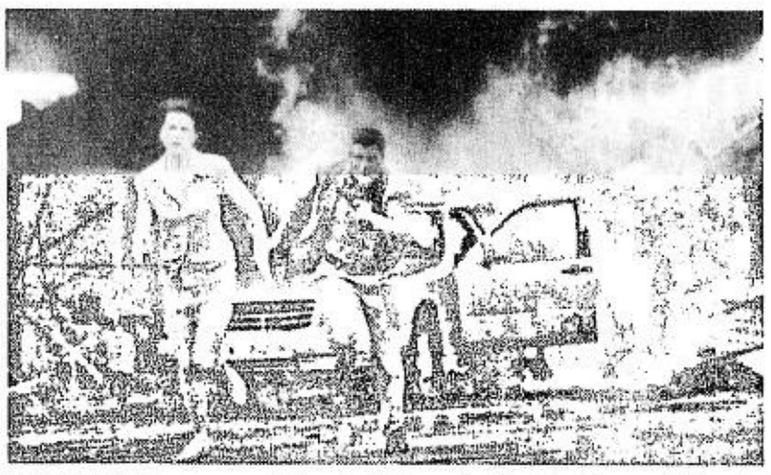
"The Lone Gunmen" was quickly canceled. But among the new crop of shoot-'em-up series in the fall TV season, which starts Monday, are three—ABC's "Alias," CBS' "The Agency" and Fox's "24"—that deal with terrorism at war with the CIA.

One story line in "24" involves a terrorist blowing up a passenger plane. On the premiere of "The Agency," terrorists plot to blow up the London department store Harrods.

Other cancellations

Other cancellations included tapings for the "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno" at the NBC studios in Burbank, "Late Night With Conan O'Brien" in New York and a concert by Madonna on Tuesday night in Los Angeles. The Leno and O'Brien shows will be dark all week, NBC officials said. CBS said David Letterman's "Late Show" was taking the week off anyway. *AP*

Hollywood mines terrorist reality for movie plots



GEORGE Clooney and Nicole Kidman battle Serbian rebels who possess a nuclear bomb in "The Peacemaker."

BY LAWRENCE KOOTNIKOFF

LOS ANGELES—If someone had gone to a Hollywood studio with a script resembling the scenario of this week's murderous hijackings and attacks on US soil, they probably would have been sent packing.

Too unbelievable, most studio execs would have said.

Yet some recent Hollywood fare has come close to Tuesday's attacks on New York and Washington, DC, which destroyed the World Trade Center's Twin Towers and blasted a hole in the Pentagon.

"The Siege"—the controversial 1998 thriller starring Denzel Washington, Annette Bening and Bruce Willis—follows a fictitious group of Arab terrorists who attack New York's FBI headquarters, city buses and a packed Broadway theater.

Many Arab Americans objected to the 20th Century Fox film and its stereotypical images of Arabs as fanatical terrorists ready to die to inflict murder and mayhem on all things American.

"Watching the film, I felt uneasy," said Chicago Sun-Times critic Roger Ebert, quoted by entertainment website Zap2it.com.

"Given how vulnerable our cities are to terrorism, and how vulnerable Arab-Americans are to defamation, was this movie really necessary?"

HOLLYWOOD/p.D3

DENZEL Washington is an FBI agent who goes after Arab terrorists in New York in "The Siege."

KISS, KISS AND A MILLION

WIN UP TO ₱1 MILLION AND MORE!

WIN CELLPHONES & UP TO ₱100,000 INSTANTLY!

1. Look for your Kiss, Kiss Game Card inside packs of Jack 'n Jill Chippy, Piattos, and Nova with the Kiss, Kiss and a Million promo logo.
2. Rub off panels lightly with a coin. If all three (3) panels reveal the same item, you win that prize INSTANTLY.

YOU WIN A CELLULAR PHONE | YOU WIN ₱100,000 | YOU WIN ₱10,000

3. You can win the following INSTANT PRIZES:

₱100,000 ₱10,000
₱1,000 ₱100
Cellular Phones

WIN UP TO ₱1,000,000 AT THE GRAND DRAW

1. Keep your card to get a chance to win in the PRELIMINARY and GRAND DRAWS.
2. Look for the five (5)-number combination at the back of your Kiss, Kiss Game Card.
3. Watch out for the winning five (5)-number combinations in the PRELIMINARY DRAW on October 19, 2001 and the GRAND DRAW on December 1, 2001, on Eat Bulaga over GMA Channels nationwide.
4. Raffle prizes are as follows:

	PRELIMINARY DRAW October 19, 2001		GRAND DRAW December 1, 2001	
	No. of Winners	Raffle Prize	No. of Winners	Raffle Prize
1st	3	₱100,000	1	₱1,000,000
2nd	4	₱25,000	1	₱500,000
3rd	10	₱10,000	1	₱100,000

5. Winning combinations will also be announced in national dailies.

CLAIMING YOUR PRIZE

1. Claim your prizes at any Equitable-PCI Bank branch nationwide. Claimants should bring their Kiss, Kiss Game Card and a valid ID (School ID, Company ID, Driver's License, SSS card, TIN card or Passport). Minors should be accompanied by an adult with a valid ID.
2. Look for the Kiss, Kiss and a Million promo representative and present your Kiss, Kiss Game Card. The representative shall verify your Game Card and ID.
3. Participants can redeem as many winning Kiss, Kiss Game Cards as possible.
4. All prizes are TAX FREE!
5. Tampered cards are forfeited. Only cards that have clearly visible panels for the INSTANT WIN and legible numbers for the PRELIMINARY and GRAND DRAWS will be honored. URC reserves the right to determine validity of cards.
6. Prizes from ₱10,000 and above including cellular phones may be claimed after 5 days upon presentation of the validated Kiss, Kiss Game Card. Monetary prizes will be awarded in the form of a bank account at Equitable-PCI Bank.
7. Cellular phone prizes are not convertible to cash.
8. Prizes not claimed within 60 days after the GRAND DRAW date shall be forfeited.
9. Disqualification. This promo is open to all Filipinos except those who are employees of URC, its distributors, McCann-Erickson Philippines, Harrison Communications, Brand Loyalty, Starcom, and Equitable-PCI Bank including their relatives up to the 2nd degree of consanguinity and affinity.

Equitable PCI BANK

Per DOH-BFAD Permit No. 0218, Series of 2001

Hollywood mines terrorist reality for movie plots

(From page D2)

"The prejudicial attitudes embodied in the film are insidious, like the anti-Semitism that infected fiction and journalism in the 1930s—not just in Germany, but in Britain and America," Ebert said.

Battling terrorism has been a longtime Hollywood staple.

Nuclear weapon

In "The Peacemaker," a 1997 DreamWorks SKG release starring George Clooney and Nicole Kidman, a Serbian terrorist plans to detonate a stolen nuclear weapon in New York City.

In "Arlington Road," (1999) a professor of terrorism (Jeff Bridges) suspects that a pleasant couple who have moved next door (Tim Robbins and Joan Cusack) are hiding something.

He discovers they intend to conduct terrorist activities in Washington, DC, and tries to stop them.

Blackmail

In 1994's "True Lies," Arnold Schwarzenegger is a secret agent fighting a plot by Muslim terrorists to blackmail the United States with four stolen nuclear warheads.

In his three "Die Hard" films, good guy Bruce Willis fights terrorists of various nationalities.

In "Navy SEALS" (1990), commando Charlie Sheen discovers that a fanatical Arab terrorist is holding American stinger missiles.

"Black Sunday," director John Frankenheimer's 1977 thriller, terrorists commandeer a TV blimp to bomb the stadium during the Super Bowl of American football.

IRA

The shadowy Irish Republican Army, committed to overthrowing British rule of Northern Ireland, has also been a favorite Hollywood villain in films including "Patriot Games" (1992), "The Devil's Own" (1997) and "The Boxer" (1997).

Martial arts tough guy Chuck Norris has taken on terrorists in "Delta Force" (1986) and "Top Dog" (1995). *AFP*

REACTIONS to the tragedy ranged from conservative to insensitive comments.

AM/FM

Terror in dreamland

BY RITO P. ASILO

WE stayed up late Tuesday evening till the wee hours of Wednesday morning to monitor the shocking terrorist attacks on the United States. If the world's most powerful country can't protect itself from such acts, how can we expect the US to safeguard world peace?

Listening to radio was the easiest way to check how Filipinos felt about this, given that we are a country used to disasters, be they natural or man-made. And it looked like everybody was tuned in.

We checked out all the radio stations on the AM band and found out that those who had not signed off yet were monitoring the US incident, except for three stations-two were in Chinese, while a third one was playing cheesy jukebox types of songs about loving and losing.

It was frightening to listen to stories of death and destruction, with descriptions ranging from conservative to insensitive. One caller expressed fear for the lives of relatives he could not get in touch with, due to the shutdown of communication lines and density of calls.

A woman expressed hope that her estranged husband, who has been in New York for sometime now, was alright. She said she wished him well despite his having left her—*for another guy!* Come again?

An announcer commented that the US would probably understand now how it feels to have "calamities they couldn't do anything about."

The stories that we heard in all of these programs painted a pretty bleak scenario: the Center for Disease Control (CDC) in Atlanta in full alert for disease outbreak that may be brought about by chemical biohazards; the peso-dollar exchange rate in the light of our dependence on the US currency; Pres. Bush both condemning whoever was responsible for these cruel acts and reassuring his countrymen that everything was going to be alright; countries with close ties to the US tightening security measures in US embassies and consulates all over the world; the Afghan Taliban and Bin Laden as primary suspects, etc.

But it was ironic that it had to take the explosion, and eventual collapse, of the twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York, for people to do something about how these terrorists care nothing for human lives, not to mention billions of dollars worth of property.

Everybody wondered just how many Filipinos had been affected by these incidents. But we surmised it was pointless to even ask this question simply because you will always find Filipinos in every nook and cranny of the world. Maybe even in Antarctica.

dzAR's Saturday fare

On a lighter note, we would like to share with you a list of NBC dzAR's list of programs (on 1026 kHz) every Saturday: 4-6 a.m., "Metro Balita" with Style Villa and Hero Robregado; 6-8 a.m., "Ating Alamin" with Gerry Geronimo; 8-9 a.m., "Oras ng Pag-ibig"; 9-10:30 a.m., "OFW, Ikaw ang Bida" with Rep. Jun Luzada; 10:30-11:30 a.m., "Showbistuhan" with Larry Kingking and Eric Arevalo (who calls himself Picachu); 11:30-12:30 a.m., "Pinoy Entrepreneur" with Carl Balita and Bam Disimulacion; 12:30-1:30 p.m., "XYZone" with Rina Jimenez David; 1:30-2:30 p.m., "R&B" with Bonjay Isip and Ricky Sandoval; 2:30-3:30 p.m., "Clinic on the Air" with Mhet Sanding and Joyce Adra; 3:30-4:30 p.m., "Balikatan, Balitaktakan" with Nancy Esguerra and Jet Diaz; 3:30-4:30 p.m., "NBC Angel Reports"; 5-6 p.m., "Viva Komadrona"; 6-8 p.m., "Gabay ng Bayan, Kilos Kabayan" with Len Flores-Sumera annd Style Villa; 8-10 p.m., "OPM: Noon at Ngayon" with Tony Cuevas; 10-11 p.m., "Gintong Hula Atbp." with Chai Aquino and Judy Lou de Pio; 11-12 m.n., "Tinig ng Tagumpay" with Rev. Eric Rivera.

Of special mention are the radio programs of one of our favorite PDI columnists Rina Jimenez-David and the fun-filled entertainment show of Larry and Eric. Also, we have written about how much we enjoyed listening to Angelique and Chiz's daily morning news show on Angel Radyo. We will fill you in on these shows in one of our future features.

On a personal note, we would like to thank everybody who prayed with us for the fast recovery of Monique Wilson's mom, Teresa, the executive producer of "The Vagina Monologues in Filipino," and whom everybody in Philippine theater fondly calls *Tita* Terry. She is under the care of an efficient medical team at the Manila Doctors Hospital. Our deepest gratitude to all of you.

Lastly, we wish to invite radio stations to send us their list of programs and hosts, concept shows, special events, and our dear readers for comments and suggestions. You can e-mail us at ritasilo@hotmail.com.

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KITCHEN

APPLIANCE SHOWCASE

September 15 to October 31, 2001

Win any of the following kitchen essentials
Simply through a purchase of a bottle of Sue Bee Honey!

10 CONSOLATION PRIZE
Glass Turbo Blender

3rd PRIZE
5 WINNERS
Microwave Oven

2nd PRIZE
3 WINNERS
Range Oven

GRAND PRIZE
Kitchen Showcase
1 WINNER
1 refrigerator, 1 range oven
1 microwave oven, 1 blender
1 coffeemaker

Here's how you can win one!

1. This promo is valid at any Metro Manila grocery or supermarket that produces an itemized receipt. Promo starts September 15 and ends on October 31, 2001.

2. Simply buy 1 Sue Bee Honey in the 8 oz., 12 oz., 16 oz., or 24 oz. jar/bottle or Aunt Sue Honey in the 16 oz., 32 oz., or 48 oz. jar/bottle. On a piece of paper, write your complete name, address, age, and signature and, together with the proof of purchase (receipt) itemizing your Sue Bee or Aunt Sue purchase, and drop at designated boxes located at major groceries and supermarkets. Or send your entry to:

Sue Bee Kitchen Showcase
c/o Masterminds Asia Communications
1605 Jollibee Plaza
Emerald Avenue, Ortigas Center,
Pasig City
1600 Metro Manila

3. The raffle will be held on November 7, 2001 at 1605 Jollibee Plaza, Emerald Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City, 1600 Metro Manila.

4. Winners will be drawn at the raffle in the presence of a BFAD representative for the following corresponding prizes:

- **Consolation Prize :** 10 winners get 1 glass turbo blender each
- **THIRD PRIZE :** 5 winners get 1 microwave oven each
- **SECOND PRIZE :** 3 winners get 1 range oven each
- **GRAND PRIZE :** 1 winner get a Kitchen Showcase (including 1 refrigerator, 1 range oven, 1 microwave oven, 1 blender, and 1 coffeemaker)

5. A winner's name picked more than once will qualify this same winner to the prize of higher value. Another name will be drawn for the discarded prize.

6. Winners will be notified by telegram or registered mail. Their names will also appear in a congratulatory or announcement ad in the Philippine Daily Inquirer, the Philippine Star and Manila Bulletin on November 19, 2001.

7. Winners may claim their respective prizes after the presentation of an identification material (office or school ID, driver's license, birth certificate, baptismal certificate, etc.) at Teope Commercial, Pasig City (see complete address above in item number 2). Prizes not claimed within 60 days from receipt of sent telegrams or registered mails will be forfeited in favor of Teope Commercial, Philippine exclusive distributor of Sue Bee/Aunt Sue Honey, subject to the approval of the BFAD.

8. All employees of Teope Commercial (Philippine exclusive distributor of Sue Bee/Aunt Sue Honey), its suppliers, and its ad agency Masterminds Asia Communications, along with their relatives up to the second degree of consanguinity/affinity, are disqualified from joining this promo.

** Items shown are not the actual prizes.*

SueBee Honey®

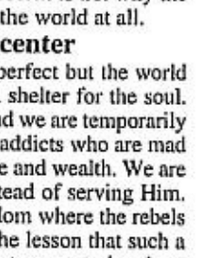
TEOPE COMMERCIAL

DOH BFAD Permit No.0562 Series of 2001

Lessons from the World Trade Center tragedy

LOTUS POND

R. Valencia and S. Bismark



WHY do bad things happen to powerful nations? Why does terrorism strike even the most technologically-advanced countries? Why are so many people shocked about what happened in America?

In many people's minds, the United States is the land of promise and opportunity. The destruction of the World Trade Center and the great damage to the Pentagon building—symbols of American economic and military domination—showed that the country's strength and dominant status are superficial and limited. As one witness describes the incident. "The building collapsed instantly like a house of glass," In one moment, everything crumbled to the ground. In a matter of hours, the people's security was shattered.

Illusory energy

Th illusory energy tricks us into believing that this material world is secure—that we belong here and that life is meant for building our individual futures here. Those countries that have raced to the forefront of economic development have labeled themselves as "successful," "giants," "leaders of the developed world," etc. They feel they have reached the summit of existence to be respected and looked up to by the rest of the world.

The terrorist attack on America shows the frailty and agony of this material world—the ever-present sufferings such as violence, death, pain, etc. Suffering comes with this material world. The root cause of the suffering is not one terrorist, one organization, one nation. Everything here is temporary; everything here will be destroyed. Everything material is laced with the dualities of happiness and distress, pain and pleasure, beginning and end. The problem is not why the world is such but why we are in the world at all.

Rehabilitation center

People want the world to be perfect but the world was not created to be the perfect shelter for the soul. This is our rehabilitation center and we are temporarily housed here together with all the addicts who are mad for power, respect, fame, opulence and wealth. We are rebels who want to play God instead of serving Him. This is the section of God's kingdom where the rebels get to play their game and learn the lesson that such a trip is not going to work. We have to accept that there is no happiness in trying to be lord and master; the only real happiness is in being servant of our real Master.

While undergoing rehabilitation and "detoxification," we should not be surprised that problems will arise. One inmate may suddenly want to exploit some of us. We may also suffer due to our rebelliousness and insanity at times and the insanity of others at other times.

Real home

If we wake up and see the reality of this world, we may consider finding our real home and getting out of this world of terrorism and great insecurity. Looking for a better place within this material dimension is not the solution to our problems. Moving from one country to another is not going to spare us from the sufferings of diseases, old age and death. It is not going to free us from fear and anxiety.

The great sages and representatives of the Supreme Lord come to this world to invite us back home— a world of perfect pleasure, free from terrorism and suffering, the kingdom of the most loving Supreme Being. If we want real shelter and security, we should put great effort into going home and being completely purified of our disease of materialism, antagonism, terrorism and individualism.

Choice

We are always given a choice by God to serve Him or not. Out of great love, He respects our will. So we are free to choose. We can struggle to find our way to the top of the tallest building in the world and have a temporary little kingdom there. Or we can start on the journey to the eternally blissful realm and leave this material world behind. The attack on America is a wake up call. Hopefully, everyone will learn the real lessons behind such a tragedy.

Terrorist attacks shut down Hollywood

(From page D8)

"Our heartfelt thoughts and prayers go out to the victims, their families and everyone who has been impacted by these horrific events."

CBS spokeswoman Susan Marks says a new date has not yet been set.

Latin Grammys cancelled

Shortly after the Latin Grammys were canceled, CBS released a second statement confirming the Prime-Time Emmy Awards were also being put off. The awards had been slated for Sunday in Los Angeles.

"We are watching this tragedy unfold on television with everyone else today with the deepest sadness," the network said. "Therefore, out of respect to the victims, their families and our fellow citizens, the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences and the CBS Television Network will postpone the 53rd Prime-Time Emmy Awards.

"We will announce the new date of our awards show at the appropriate time."

All Emmy-related events, including a Television Academy reception and ball and Directors Guild and Writers Guild receptions have also been called off.

Production halted

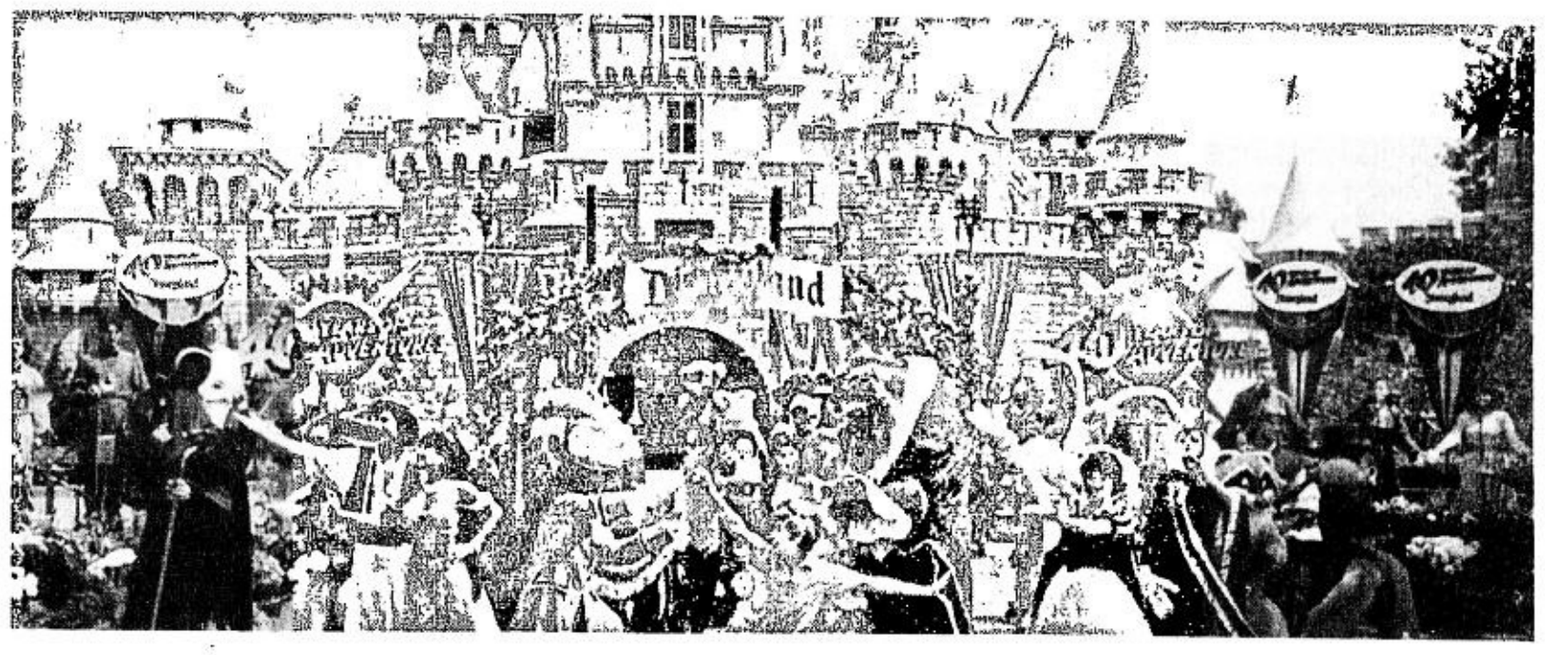
The attacks have sent shockwaves throughout Hollywood and the entertainment industry at large. The major movie studios have been closed, production has been halted on most TV and movie projects, and only essential personnel are reporting to the television networks.

Many non-news networks, such as ESPN, VH1, MTV and even QVC, switched from normal programming to coverage of the attacks. Howard Stern broke his normal shock-jock radio routine to focus on the breaking news.

Disney and Universal have shut down their theme parks, and other amusement park operators were likely to follow suit.

Fashion Week—the event of the year for New York's style mavens, which began Monday—has been called off. No word on when it will be rescheduled. Broadway theaters have gone dark for the day.

In Canada, the Toronto film festival was shut down.



DISNEY has closed its theme parks and other amusement parks were likely to follow.

> The attacks have sent shockwaves throughout Hollywood and the entertainment industry at large

Courthouses closed

All courthouses in Los Angeles were also closed, forcing a delay in several cases, including a preliminary hearing in the child-abuse case against Paula Poundstone.

Madonna and the Black Crowes were among the major music acts canceling Tuesday night concerts. All Major League Baseball games scheduled for Tuesday were called off.

Tens of thousands are feared dead in the attacks, which occurred just before 9 a.m. ET Tuesday. Apparently, in a highly orchestrated maneuver, terrorists hijacked four passenger planes and smashed two into New York's World Trade Center—reducing the monolithic Twin Towers to rubble and entombing thousands of workers within—and another into the Pentagon in Washington. The fourth plane crashed outside Pittsburgh.

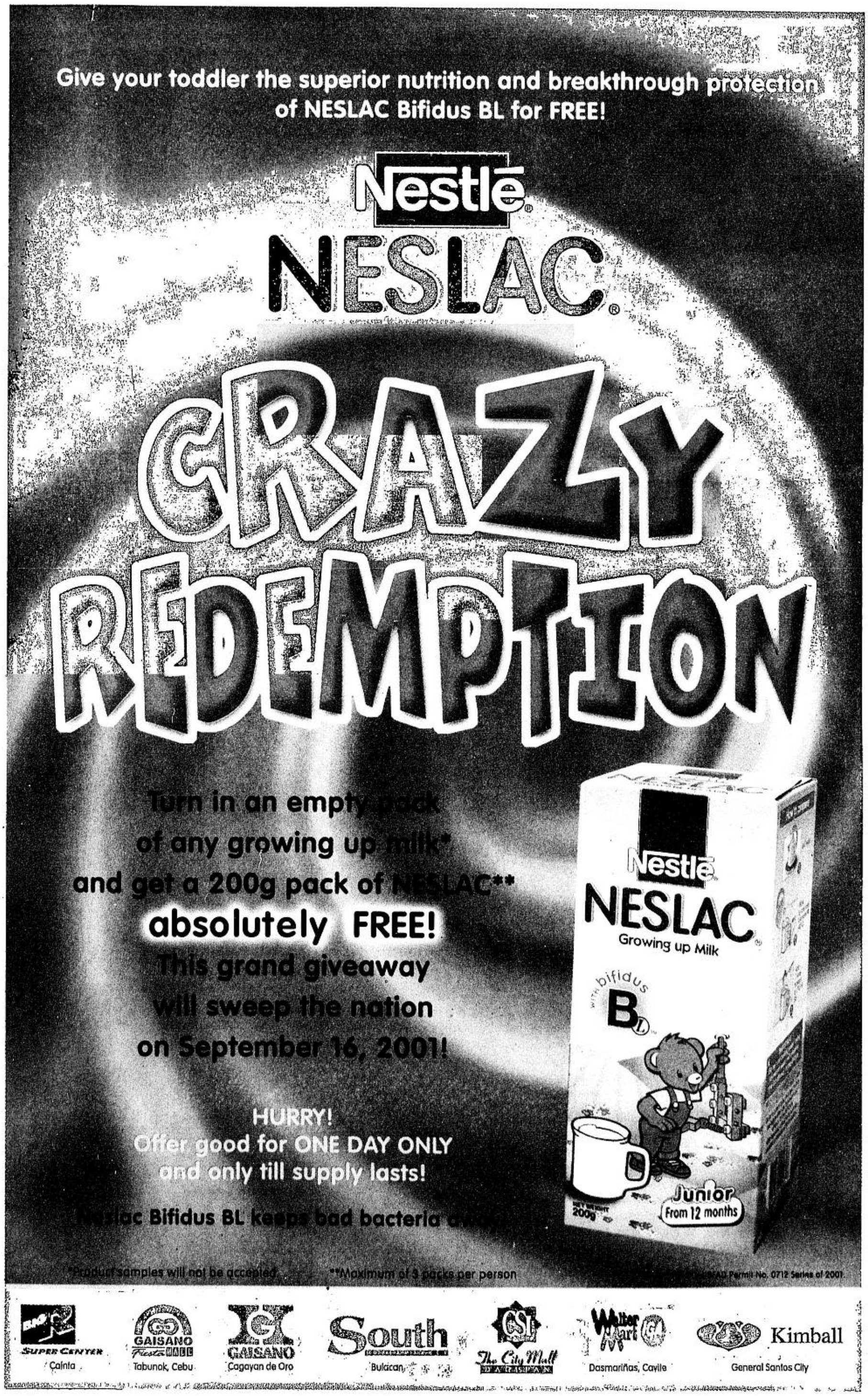
About 50,000 people work at the Trade Center. The planes—two from American Airlines, two from United Airlines—were carrying a total of 233 passengers, 25 flight attendants and eight pilots, according to airline officials. David Angeli, the Emmy-winning co-creator of "Frasier" and "Cheers," and his wife, Lynn, were aboard one of the planes that hit the World Trade Center. MSNBC legal commentator Barbara Olson was on the ill-fated aircraft that struck the Pentagon.

Casualty count

It is the largest terrorist attack ever on the United States. And the casualty count will dwarf even that of Pearl Harbor.

All federal and many state buildings have been closed nationwide, as have national landmarks, all airports and most office buildings in major cities.

HOWARD Stern broke his normal shock-jock radio routine to focus on the breaking news.



'Band of Brothers,' a story of ordinary men in extraordinary times

HBO's most expensive original production to date, "Band of Brothers," brings together Tom Hanks and Steven Spielberg, two of the greatest filmmakers of our time. The $120-million original miniseries, which is set to premiere this Oct. 27 across Asia, reunites the duo as executive producers of a project inspired by "Saving Private Ryan," yet even bigger in scope.

Easy Company

HBO's ambitious 10-hour miniseries "Band of Brothers" is based on Stephen Ambrose's best-selling book of the same name. The book is based on the stories of Easy Company, 506th Regiment of the 101st Airborne Division, US Army. Starting with their rigorous training in Georgia in 1942, it recounts the achievements of the elite rifle company, which parachuted into France early on D-Day morning (June 6, 1944), fought in the Battle of the Bulge, and captured Hitler's Eagle's Nest at Berchtesgaden. Drawn from hours of interviews with survivors, as well as soldiers' journals and letters, "Band of Brothers" chronicles a unit that took 150 percent casualties and became heroes.

Tom Hanks spoke of his inspiration behind the series and fascination of the subject matter, "I grew up in a generation in which the war was a distant memory . . . all the adults I knew growing up refer to time either as Before the War, During the War, or After the War . . . I am old enough now to wonder how things got to be the way they were and how it's like to be alive at a different time and so, I am enthralled and inspired by such works as 'Band of Brothers' as written by Stephen Ambrose." He added that he sees these stories as "an ongoing human dilemma that is worthy of examination."

World War II stories

While "Saving Private Ryan" had been satisfying, Hanks felt that there were more stories to tell about these World War II heroes. Meanwhile, Spielberg was fascinated by another Ambrose book, "Citizen Soldiers," but Hanks convinced him that "Band of Brothers" was the book to adapt.

"As filmmakers, we certainly hope to entertain those in search of a great story. We also hope to educate those who were unaware of our own history. And we hope to enlighten those who are unappreciative of the human cost of preserving our greet freedom," Hanks said.

"Band of Brothers" is the story of men with ordinary names . . . said Hanks. The camaraderie between the soldiers of Easy Company was heart-wrenching: here was a group of strangers of varying capabilities and diverse backgrounds brought together by the treachery of war, only to end up forming a comradeship so strong that they were willing to freeze, starve and die for one another.

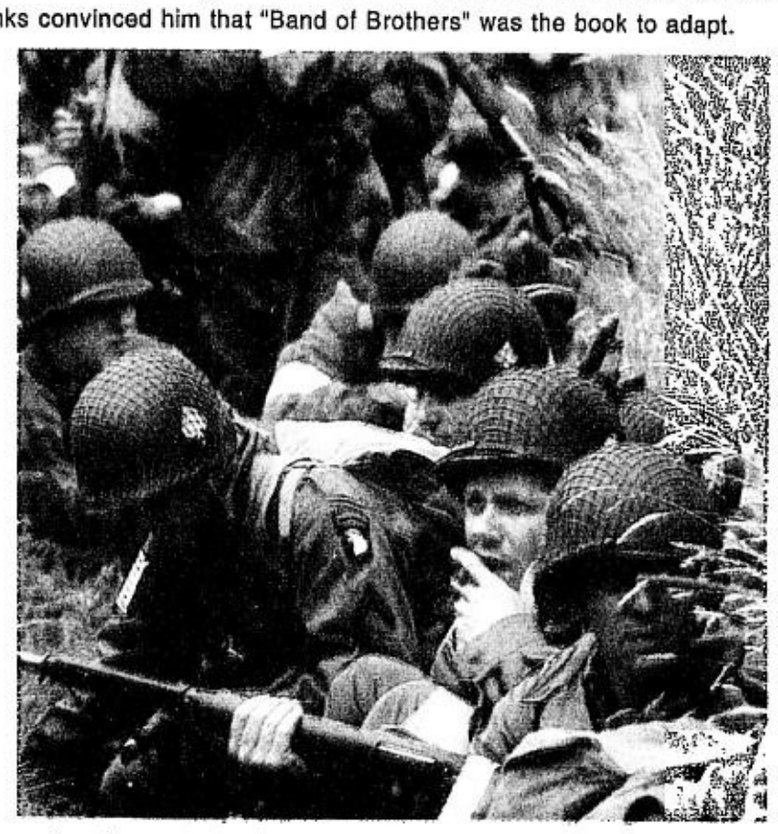
Unfamiliar actors

The cast of "Band of Brothers" follows a similar pattern. With a majority of the cast members unfamiliar to viewers, the portrayal of the war veterans will be even more compelling and realistic.

However, the show is not without its stars. David Schwimmer (from TV's "Friends"), Donnie Walberg (ex-"New Kids On the Block" member) and Colin Hanks (Tom Hanks' son and a regular on TV's "Roswell") appear in various episodes of the series.

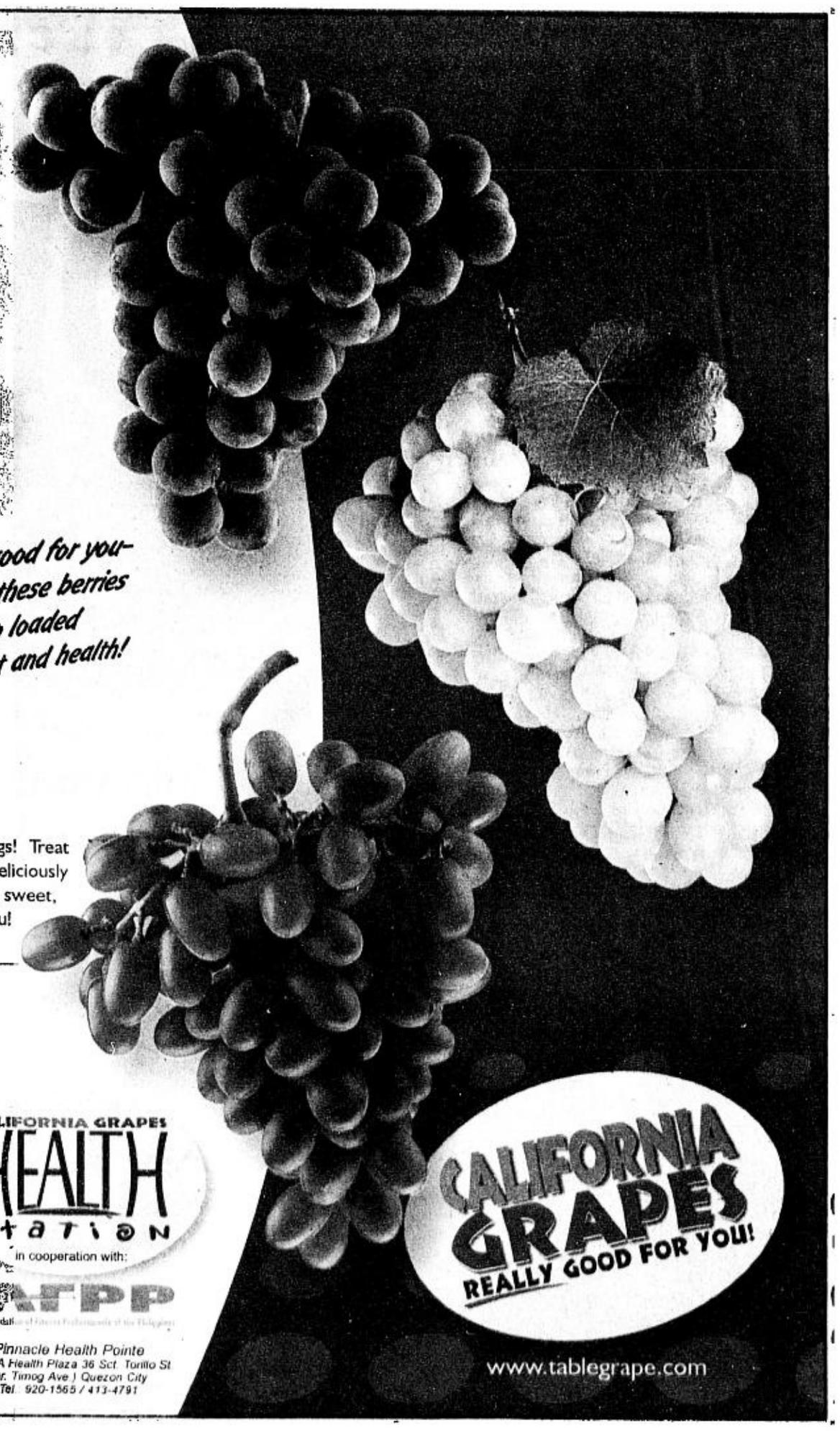
. 'BAND OF BROTHERS'/ P. D7

SPIELBERG. He wanted to produce another Ambrose book but Hanks convinced him that "Band of Brothers" was the book to adapt.



HANKS looked at the stories as "an ongoing human dilemma that is worthy of examination."

THE SWEET HEALTHY TREAT!



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A SOLDIER prepares to attack a German stronghold.

'Band of Brothers,' . . .

(From page D6)

The cast of "Band of Brothers" was created much like Easy Company: just as each of the 140 men and seven officers who formed the original company followed different routes to the birthplace of Easy Company, the actors also came from various arenas of the entertainment industry, with each actor bringing with them unique experiences and a variety of acting skills.

Premiere

The new HBO Original miniseries "Band of Brothers" will premiere on Oct. 27, 2001 at 9 p.m., across Asia, exclusively on HBO. New episodes of the miniseries premiere every Tuesday night at 10 p.m. Stephen Ambrose's best-selling novel, "Band of Brothers, is" now available at National Book Store and Powerbooks branches in Metro Manila.

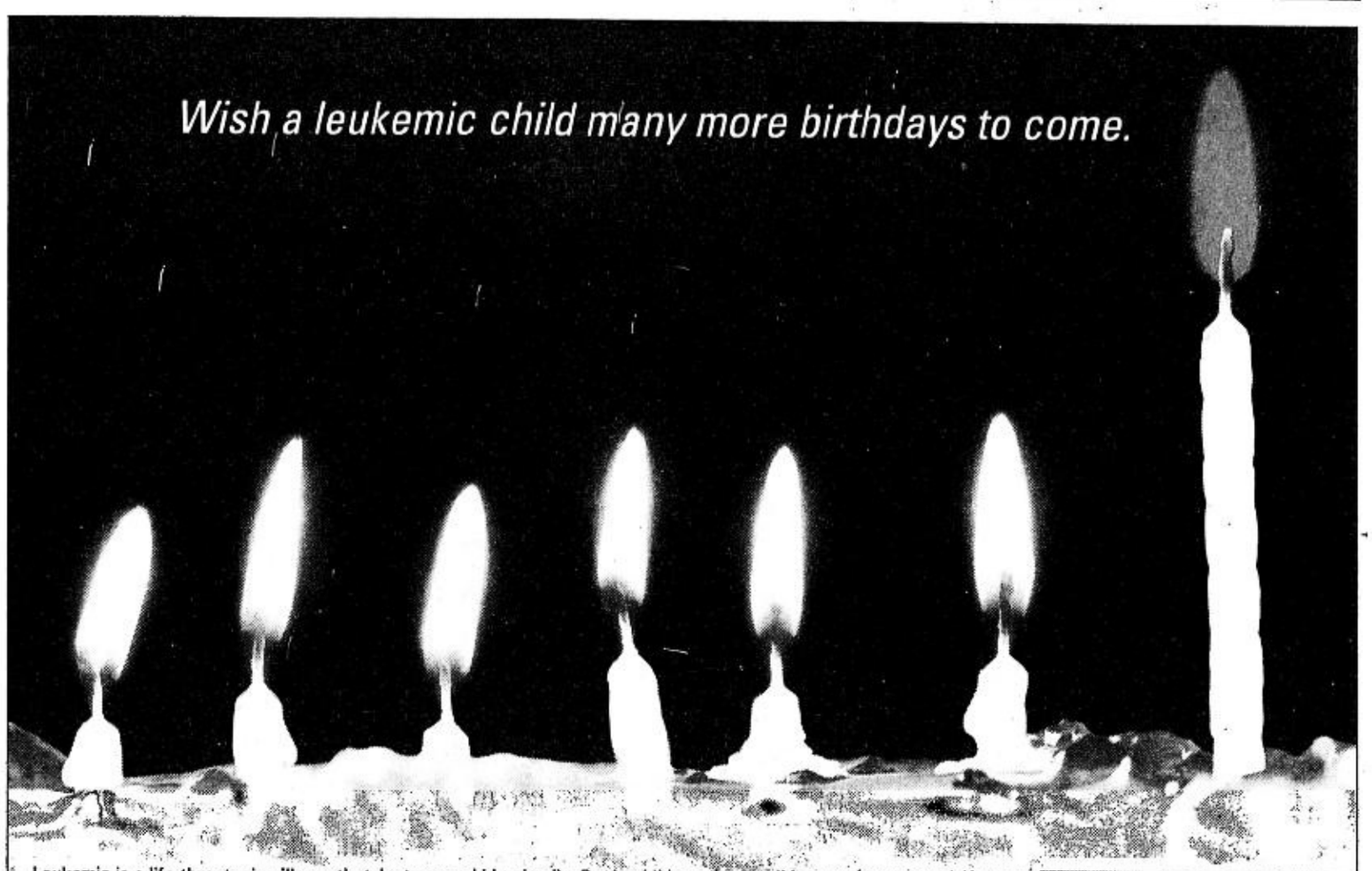
HBO is a 24-hour, commercial-free subscription channel that offers the best of Hollywood. HBO premieres exclusive blockbuster movies, award-winning HBO Original movies and series, documentaries and concerts, in Asia.

The parent company, HBO Asia, is a joint venture of AOL Time Warner (Home Box Office and Warner Bros.), Paramount, Sony Pictures and Universal Studios. HBO Asia programs and distributes HBO and Cinemax. HBO Asia licenses products on an exclusive basis from Warner Bros., Paramount Pictures, Universal Studios, Columbia/TriStar and DreamWorks for the region.

With a majority of the cast members unfamiliar to viewers, the portrayal of the war veterans will be even more compelling and realistic

DAVID Schwimmer, right, trades barbs with Damien Lewis.

WEARY members of Easy Company awaits developments from the battlefront.



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Terrorist attacks shut down Hollywood

BY BRIDGET BYRNE
AND MARCUS ERRICO

THE EMMYS and Latin Grammys have been canceled, movie studios emptied, and nearly the entire entertainment industry shut down in the wake of the devastating terrorist attacks on New York and Washington, D.C., early Tuesday morning.

In a brief statement, organizers of the Latin Grammys, which were set to beheld in Los Angeles Tuesday night, announced they have postponed the ceremony indefinitely:

"Due to the unimaginable events that have occurred this morning, the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences, the Latin Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences and CBS have canceled the second annual Latin Grammy Awards show.

TERRORIST/p.D5

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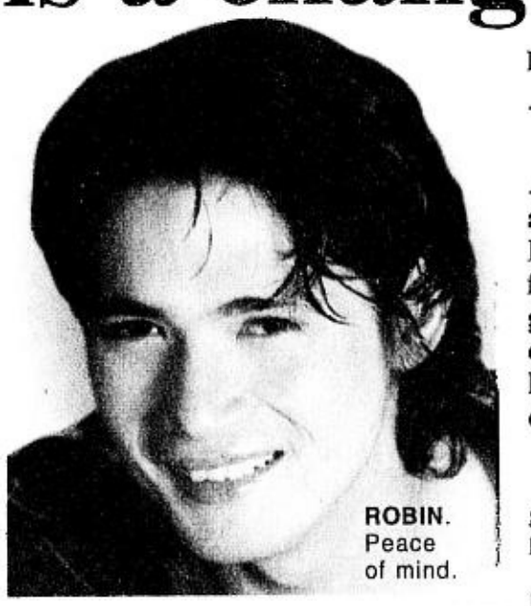
SaturdaySPECIAL

Robin Padilla is a changed man



ROBIN. Peace of mind.

BY EDMUND L. SICAM

HE was known as the "Bad Boy" of Philippine Movies, a monicker he earned after he appeared in a movie of the same title. It also helped that Robin Padilla led a fast and furious life which included dangerous drugs and booze and though his career was travelling at the speed of light, many felt that the was headed for disaster.

Prison term

True enough, his life in the fast lane came to a grinding halt when he was convicted of illegal possession of firearms and sentenced to 10-18

ROBIN/ P. E3

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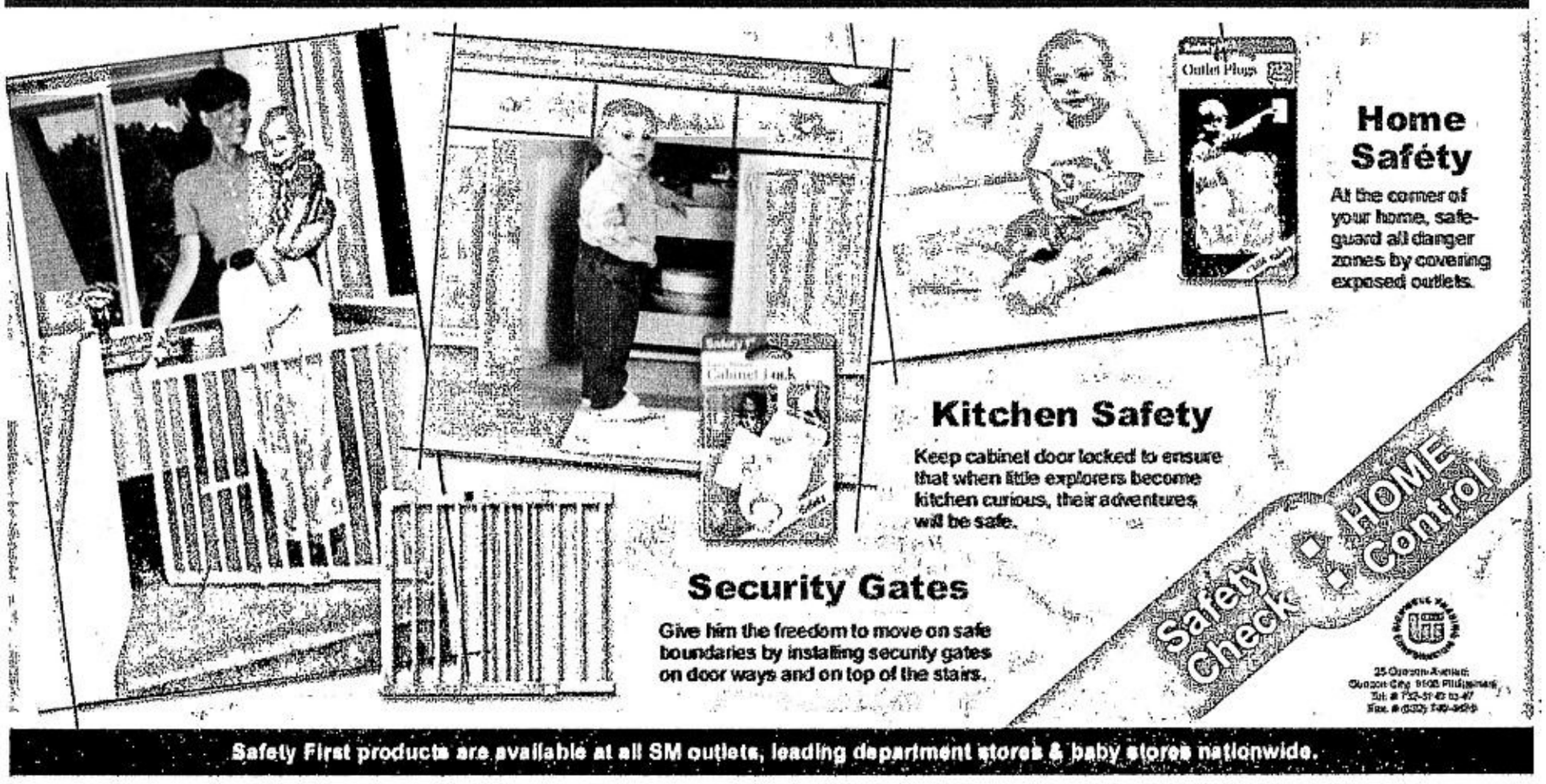

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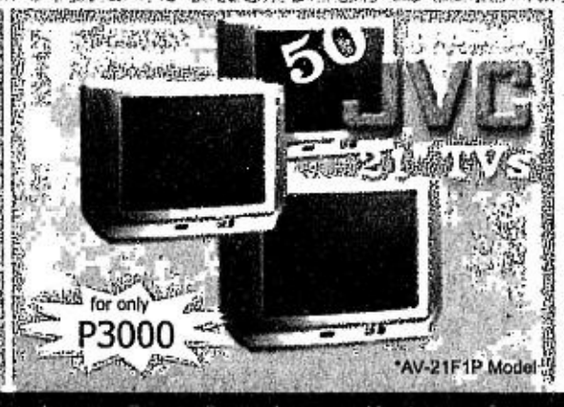

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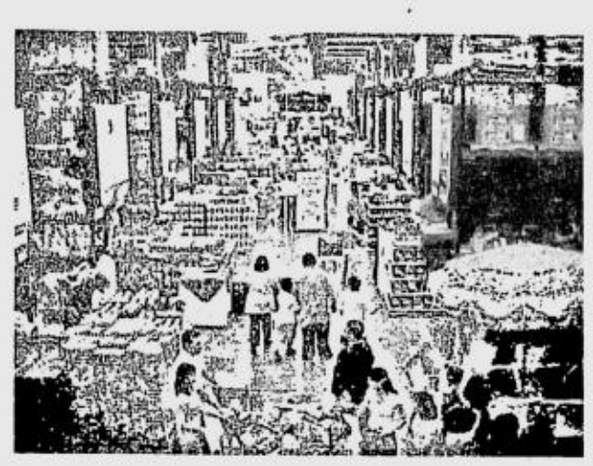

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Robin Padilla is a changed man (From page E1)

years in prison. That meant he would only be eligible for parole in five years.

During his first two months behind bars, Robin thought he was having a bad dream or even acting in a never-ending movie. It took six months before Robin finally accepted that no director would shout "cut" and his cell was going to be his home for a long, long time.

Robin's sentence would be reduced to three years after Senator Ramon Revilla steered a bill in Congress that shortened the jail term for the actor's crime. During his three-year incarceration, Robin discovered the Islam religion and imbibed its teachings that completely turned the actor around.

Today, Robin is a changed man. Despite the revival of his once moribund career, he has not gone back to his old ways. He says he is 100 per cent drug-free. In fact, he joined a group called Inmates Crusade Against Drugs when he was in prison. He continues to find peace of mind after praying, which in his newfound religion, he has to do three times a day.

Transformation

When we met him recently to talk about the new Robin, we were a bit skeptical and figured that his supposed transformation was just a PR ploy to give him a new image that would boost his career. As the conversation continued, we were satisfied that the actor was not delivering lines from a script but was really sincere in his desire to turn a new leaf.

ROBIN will shoot a movie with the Megastar soon.

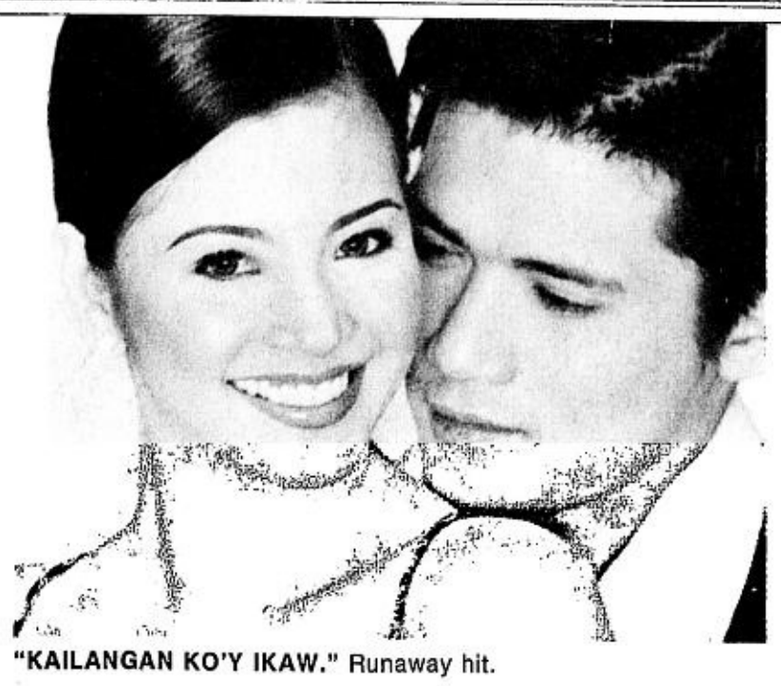
He didn't want to be branded as a "*santo-santito*" but said he was working hard to practice the tenets of his religion.

So it came as a surprise when word spread around that he was the father of director Joyce Bernal's soon-to-be-born child. Joyce was his director in the smash hit "Kailangan Ko'y Ikaw" with Regine Velasquez and many had observed how the two got really close. Robin just laughed off the *tsismis* and said Joyce was just a friend.

We asked him how he resisted temptation since his wife was based in Australia with his four children. Robin said he had a crowded schedule everyday so when he comes home he's too tired to think of anything but sleep. As an example, he cited the many appointments he had the day we interviewed him.

Movie projects

He's almost finished with Star Cinema's "Videoke King" with co-star Pops Fernandez. He will soon start shooting his film with Sharon Cuneta and there will definitely be another team-up with Regine Velasquez. There are many other projects lined up like an action movie to be directed by his mentor, Deo Fajardo for Viva Films. There's even talk about a potential blockbuster with Rudy Fernandez. To think that when he was released from the National Penitentiary on parole, the future really looked dim for the actor.



"KAILANGAN KO'Y IKAW." Runaway hit.

Robin was in high spirits over lunch as he had just been with Viva's Big Boss, Vic del Rosario. Boss Vic, he said, had just forgiven the huge debt he incurred while Robin was in jail.

Top priority

His family has become his top priority and his earnings go to Liezl who's busy overseeing the construction of their new home in Australia. He's very domesticated when he visits Liezl and there's no trace of the celebrity when he does the many things an ordinary person does to keep his home in tip-top condition.

He is also very vocal about his love for Liezl who, he said, stuck with him even when the going was rough and Robin was trying to exorcise his devils. Despite all the heartaches, Liezl stuck with him and saw him through the bad times.

Through the wonders of modern communication, Robin is able to keep in touch with his family even if they're thousands of miles apart. They exchange text messages and when he gets really lonely, he calls them long distance.

> During his first two months behind bars, Robin thought he was having a bad dream

Although Robin now enjoys the freedom to do whatever he wants so long as it is not against the law, he will not forget the long years he spent in Muntinlupa. Serving as reminders are his twice-a-month visits to his parole officer who asks him if he's been a "good boy" and his answer has always been in the affirmative. That is truly a change from his "Bad Boy" days.

Congratulations to all winners!

AYALA CENTER
GLORIETTA • GREENBELT

Prizes for Grabs

We've got to hand it all to you!!!

Evangeline Bansag
1st Prize Winner
P500,000 cash and
One (1) Siemens SL-45
Cellphone

Carol Sugnias
2nd Prize Winner
P100,000 cash
and One (1) Siemens SL-45
Cellphone

Danilo Soltura
&
Florita Sapanhila
3rd Prize Winner
P40,000 cash
and One (1) Siemens SL-45
Cellphone

And here are the other lucky participants who were part of this truly rewarding experience:

4th Prize
One (1) HP Computer Showcase
Iluminada Julie Goking
Beverly Co
Myrna Villanueva

5th Prize
One (1) CANON Digital ELPH IXUS
Jessica Ponce

6th Prize
One (1) CANON Powershot A50
Bonita Balingit
Emmar Sotelo

7th Prize
One (1) JVC MX-G9 Mini Component
Hilarie France Paredes
Rowena Bailen
Fatima Angkaya
Damasito Velez
Ma. Bella Samarista

8th Prize
One (1) SONY MHCX55 Mini Component
Cantryll Javelosa
Milagros Clemente

9th Prize
One (1) LG COLLINS 21" TV CP21Q22G
Maritess Solano
Letty Co
Edna Tan
Lourdes Consing
Aimee Michelle Perez
Rogaciano Tabilon
Norberto Espedido
Lauracita Oroncia
Florentina Adlao
Edfa Beltran

10th Prize
One (1) JVC UX-V5 Micro Component
Marina Andal
Tina Rosello
Eliseo Emuslan
James Wong
Ma. Teresa Campita
Christi Aleli Cavan

11th Prize
One (1) LG COLLINS TV/VCD/VCR
Irene Hazel Tan
Remedios Morena
Susan Palma
Caroline Desuasipo
Veronica Guerra
Henry Casaul

12th Prize
P5000 Worth of Gift Certificates
Romeo Siervo Jr.
Angelina Candare
Mary Ann Yambot
Lani Torres
Irmina Roces
Josephine Sebastian
Cecille Burayag
Soledad Ong
Priscilla Laforteza
Archimedes Salamat
Analiza Reamucio
Ramonita Oviedo
Michelle Mariano
Luzviminda Ferrer
Andrea Fanissa Tan
Joy Cindy Perez
Evangeline Tan
Divina Valeza

13th Prize
One (1) SONY D-E201 Walkman
Ma. Rowena Gamboa
Quennie Teves
Pablo Carag Jr.

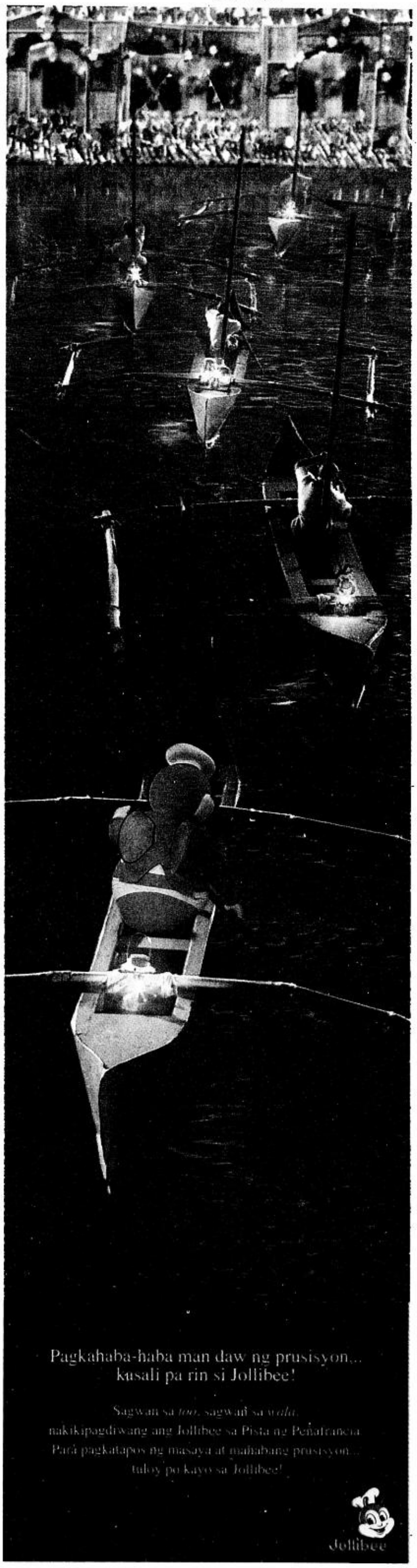
14th Prize
One (1) V-TECH Super Advantage
Annie Tamba
Rosalinda Serapio
Ma. Angela Castro
Liberty Mendoza
Ma. Cecilia Cachola-Donelo
Pamela Marasigan
Ivy Lee

15th Prize
One (1) V-TECH SS Adventure
Marivic Suyom
Tet Mendoza
Catherine Dela Cruz
Rhodora Garces
Jane Diestro
Mimi Alba
Rhoda Timbol
Julieta Buan
Tomas Panganiban Jr.
Roberto Nodera
Gan Pue Jr.
Marisol Cariaga
Margarita Maceda
Victor Imperial
Marichu Romano

CO-PRESENTORS
SIEMENS mobile phones
HSBC

This promo is just part of the many exciting events we have in store for all our shoppers. Thank you to all of you who joined and watch out for more big things to come!

Ayala Malls. Because you deserve more!



Pagkahaba-haba man daw ng prusisyon... kusali pa rin si Jollibee!

Sagwan sa *tuo*, sagwan sa *wala*... nakikipagdiwang ang Jollibee sa Pista ng Peñafrancia. Para pagkatapos ng masaya at mahabang prusisyon... tuloy po kayo sa Jollibee!

Jollibee

DINA BONNEVIE

There's a new villain on TV and she's got class

BY EDMUND L. SICAM

DINA Bonnevie made a name for herself as a drama actress in motion pictures. In her last project, "Tanging Yaman," she held her own against talented co-stars like Christopher de Leon, Johnny Delgado, Gloria Romero. When it came to television, however, Dina is better known as a talk show host because of her stint in "D-Day" and "Ms D."

Speculation

Several weeks ago, her days as a talk show host ended and there was speculation that she would move to another channel. That soon fizzled out because GMA announced that Dina was being cast in "Ikaw Lang Ang Mamahalin."

We talked to her recently and discussed her new identity:

What was it like, the transition from talk show host to villain?

It was so funny *kasi* I did my last episode for "D Day" on a Monday. Up to that Monday afternoon, I didn't know what I was going to do. *Sabi ko*, "Arnold (Arnold Vigafria, Dina's manager), please, *mag-decide ka na kung anong gagawin natin.* I had similar offers *sa kabila* but *syempre* you're vacillating di ba? *Iba naman iyung nasa* 7 *ka na* ever since, *talagang* mother studio *mo siya.* You're more comfortable with the people around you. Finally, *sabi ni* Arnold "okay, we will tape for 'Ikaw Lang.' That night *ko pa lang sin*-ign iyung contract! The next day taping *na kami.*

Sincerity

Why did you decide to stay with GMA?

First and foremost, I've always been with 7. Of course, I had shows with the other networks also. I'm not saying *na hindi naman nila ako inalagaan* when I had shows with them. But 7 was the one that gave me the chance to be a host twice over from "Ms D" to "D-Day." They guested me several times in their *telesine.* And I think when they told Arnold about the role, *parang nandoon iyung* sincerity to really take care of me.

Let's face it, *siguro doon sa kabila, marami na rin silang artista.* The difference between having you for prestige and having you because they needed you— I think that's what affected our decision.

What was your first taping day like?

I was really touched because when I arrived, there was a bouquet of flowers waiting for me. It was so professional, everything I needed was there, *iyung* food, *di ko nga kailangang sabihin na di ako kumakain ng* meat, *basta may* vegetables *na kaagad.* The costumes, *wala na iyung taranta na, "anong susuotin ko?"* Everything was there. Somebody came to my studio that day telling me, "Ok, *ganito iyung* role, *ganito iyung nangyari.*

DINA. Viewers identify with soap characters.

Mirror image

Don't you find soap operas inane?

I used to think that soaps were inane. This soap is not like that. Why do you think soaps rate a lot? Because they're actually a mirror image of what goes on in real life. If my viewers can identify with me as a wife, as a mother, a citizen, a woman, when I was a talk show host, the more they can identify with the different characters in a soap. "*Ganyan ang sitwasyon namin ng nanay ko, or ganyan ang sitwasyon namin ng* boyfriend *ko.*" *Marami diyan hiwalay sa* boyfriend, *gusto maghiganti.* Maybe a person, who doesn't know how to fight for her rights, can think, "I can also fight for my own rights, look at this person in the soap.

You can say that you can learn that in talk shows, yes. But the Filipinos are very visually-oriented. *Hindi mo sila puedeng kuwentohan.* Take for example, *gumawa ka ng tipong* "Sex and The City" *na ang* comedy is in the witty lines, the snappy dialogue, it's not gonna work here. *Di ka mahuhuli ng tao kung puro salita*

Will your character be a villain with class?

Ang storya niyan, ako iyung talagang love ni Albert. And then somewhere along the way, Marjorie, who is my best friend, *inagaw niya.* So I go to jail, *pina*-rape niya ako. I kill my *rapist so napunta ako sa* jail. So somebody comes……and she uses me to take revenge. *Ako din, may atraso sa akin si* Albert, but then, the point is the minute I see him, *nangingibabaw iyung* love ko for him. Once upon a time this was my Romeo, I love this man!

I guess that's where the story begins to evolve, I become a hardened person in prison.

How do you feel about not having a talk show after many years?

Actually, I've missed it. Like the first week, *parang naninibago ako* because I got so used sleeping at 10, because you have to memorize a lot of information about next day's guests. For a while, you know I'd wake up, *"Ay, pupunta na ako sa D Day." Tapos bigla na lang, "Ay, wala na nga pala."*

Missing her fans

Tapos parang nalungkot ako. I'm going to miss my fans *na nag*-e-mail that I've become part of their lives. Sometimes when I see them in the grocery, they call me,"*Hoy* Dina*!" Akala mo kilalang-kilala ka na! Iniisip ko nga, kumare ko ba to o kapitbahay*?

Can you tell use more about your role?

I play Marisa, an art collector. She's very intelligent, but her Waterloo is her love life. You know she always ends up with all these losers and... (**someone says, "*Parang ikaw.*"**) I guess God can't give you everything! Well, but I promised myself that this time, this is the real millennium, the year 2001, I'll be smarter with my choices, and more detailed, *talagang* I'm going to look at every little detail!

Trusting

Sometimes kasi when you're so trusting and then you're sincere, you expect everyone to be the same. I'm so transparent *kasi.* Sometimes I make enemies because I'm so truthful and I expect people to be like that. And then after that, you find out, gosh, *niloko pala ako*

Why did you accept the role of a villain?

I thought twice, you know why? You are Ms. D. People stopped calling me Dina e. Ms. D! Ms. D! Nag-show ako sa Ormoc, "Ms. D!" *Sabi ko, bakit hindi* Dina Bonnevie ang intro sa akin? Ms. D. So *parang chokaran ka na ng mga* housewives, *mga bata. Minsan sasabihan ka ng,* "*Oy, I*-topic *mo naman iyung problema ko, iyung asawa ko nasa* Saudi, *may ibang babae iyon.*" "*A talaga*?" *Ita*-topic ko iyon.

Ang naging problema ko is baka mamaya, dahil kontrabida ako, iyung mga taong nagmamahal sa akin, who have seen me as Ms D, all of a sudden, they'll say "*nyeh, salbahe, salbahe*!" *baka ganonin nila ako,* like what they did to Princess Punzalan and Gladys Reyes. So *sabi ko,* "*naku,* Arnold, *ayoko ata maging kontrabida.*"

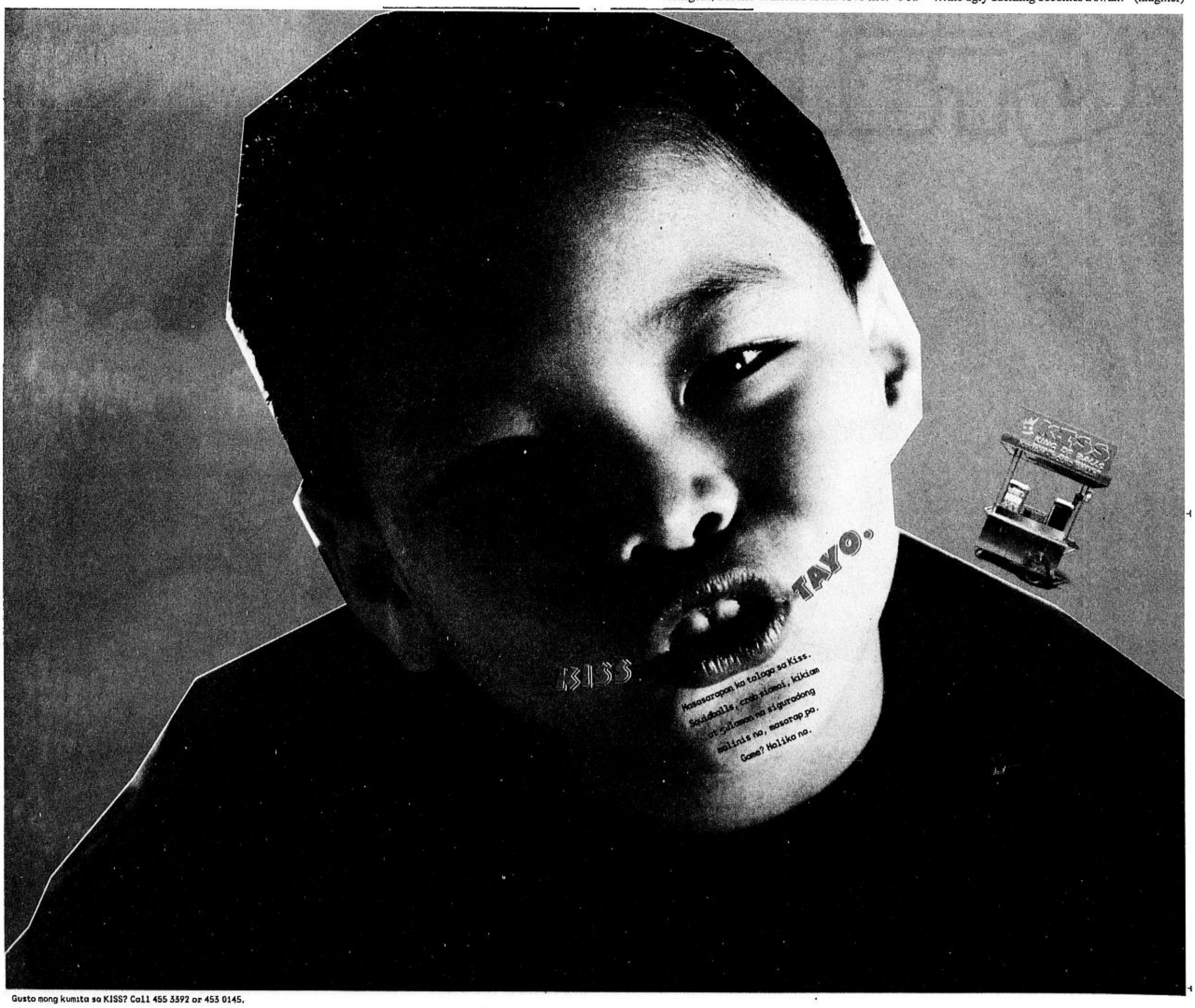
Directors

What finally convinced you?

The thing that convinced me was when I talked to several directors and most of them, *siguro* 10 out of 12 said, "Dina, *walang dating kung ang* role mo, goody-goody. *Kung gusto mong mapansin sa* soap, you gotta be a Joan Collins type." *Biglang, ting*! So sabi ko, "Arnold, I'm ready!"

This time, *lahat ng pantasya ko, puede kong gawin.* Because also sa "D Day," I could not really dress up. I had to tone it down, *Sasabihin nila, "masyado kang maporma! Ang mga nanonood sa iyo, mga katulong, mga nasa* Baclaran, *mga nasa* Tondo, *tapos nakaganyan ka. Palitan mo damit mo*! *Ang ayos-ayos na naman ng suot mo*! *Di maka*-relate *sa iyo ang* audience *mo!" Di ngayon, Padamihan tayo ng* shades

Minsan pati iyung…."incidentally"…."o, Ingles ka ng Ingles,….*pati ba naman pag-cross legs mo, de-numero*?" "*Naku*, I'm sorry *ha, pero talaga nag-aral kami kay* Chona Kasten, *talagang* mannered *ako!"* I cannot be any way I want. *E ngayon, baliktad na.* What's that word? *Barubal*? *Parang*, I can act like that in the beginning, which I did in the soap *pero* eventually, …the ugly duckling becomes a swan! (laughter)



Hobbits go head-to-head with Potter at the movies

BY PAUL MAJENDIE

LONDON—The Hobbit is to go head-to-head with Harry Potter in a battle at the movies that could match their rivalry in the bookstores of the world.

Over the past half century, J.R.R. Tolkien's classic fantasy "The Lord of the Rings" about Hobbits, trolls, elves and wizards has sold an estimated 100 million copies worldwide.

J.K. Rowling's tales of Potter the teenage wizard matched that figure in just four years.

ELIJAH Wood is the lead star in the Tolkien classic.

A MEDIEVAL army prepares to do battle in "Lord of the Rings."

Challenge

Now Hollywood takes up the challenge with the first Harry Potter film set to hit the big screen in November. The first film in the Tolkien trilogy follows at Christmas.

"Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone"—or "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone" as it will be called in the United States—gets its worldwide premiere in London on Nov. 4.

The film, starring Daniel Radcliffe as the bespectacled wizard, cost $150 million to make, but Warner Bros. Pictures is confident Pottermania will seize fans worldwide.

Quidditch

Rowling said she was eager to see the film version of her first literary hit, especially the cinematic portrayal of Quidditch, the basketball-like game played by wizards on broomsticks.

"I've been watching it in my head for nine years now and finally I'll get to see it along with everybody else," she told Vanity Fair magazine.

And then it is over to "Lord of the Rings."

The first of the $300 million trilogy, "The Fellowship of the Ring," starring Ian McKellen, Cate Blanchett and Christopher Lee, is set to open on Dec. 19 and become a multiplex blockbuster every year for the next three years.

"This is the pinnacle of my career. I have never been involved in a film like this before. It is superb and unforgettable," Christopher Lee said of the films made in great secrecy in New Zealand.

Director Peter Jackson said: "I have spent the last seven years of my life on this project pouring my heart into every single aspect of it."

Official website

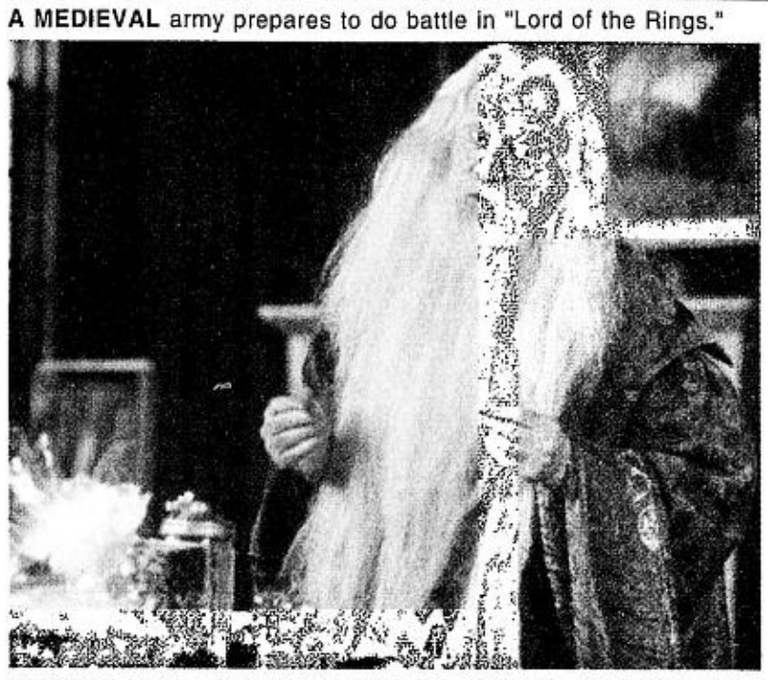
When the film's official website (lordoftherings.net) was launched at the start of the year, 350 million hits were recorded in the first three months alone.

And Hobbit fever is already building up in the bookshops.

Publishers HarperCollins reported that sales have climbed 400 percent this year without any marketing or promotion.

That leaves publisher David Brawn with a headache.

He told Britain's Independent newspaper: "We and the Tolkien family are worried that there is a genuine risk of burnout, that at the end of it there will be nobody left to read this book and we'll then suffer. Once every household has a copy of the book, there is nobody else to sell it to." *Reuters*



RICHARD Harris plays one of the many interesting characters Potter meets in the movie.

DANIEL Radcliffe is the teenage wizard in "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone."

MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM BY MIKE PETERS

ANIMAL CRACKER BY FRED WAGNER

SHERMAN'S LAGOON BY JIM TOOMEY

BABY BLUES BY JERRY SCOTT

A. LIPIN BY JESS ABRERA

PUGAD BABOY BY P.M. JUNIOR

SIMO BY EDGAR DIONELA

B1 GANG BY ATS11/ JEA/ FEVG

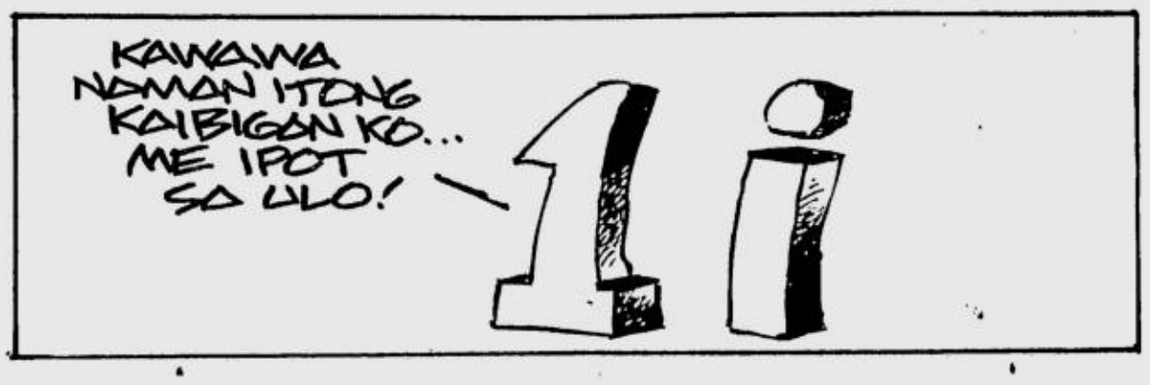
BEN BY DANIEL SHELTON

MUTTS BY PATRICK McDONNELL

HI AND LOIS BY BRIAN & GREG WALKER

LOVEKNOTS BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO

TULDOK BY PAPU & TATUM MILAMBILING



HOROSCOPE

BY EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Tommy Lee Jones, Oliver Stone, Dan Marino, Prince Harry, Wendie Jo Sperber
Happy Birthday: You may face some setbacks this year but only if you take on too much or overextend yourself financially. Maintain perspective and you'll move along exceptionally well. Be aggressive when necessary to avoid others taking advantage of you. You have everything you need to succeed so stop looking around. Your vision can lead others into the future. Your numbers: 2, 18, 27, 35, 41, 44

ARIES (March 21-April 19): It's time to take a close look at who you've become and where you're headed. If you don't like the picture, make changes. Rid yourself of people and things that no longer are to your benefit.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Lack of funds will add stress to an already uncertain situation. Concentrate on career and earning money, not on melodramas created by others. Pull up your socks and make a leap of faith.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Romance will develop. Sign up for challenging courses. You may even meet someone special who has similar interests. The person who is mentally stimulating will win your heart.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Take the plunge into something you enjoy. You need some time to dawdle over an enjoyable hobby. Financial setbacks will occur if you haven't been sticking to your budget.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You will be tempted to shop till you drop. Do yourself a favor and leave the plastic at home. You won't listen to anyone today, least of all those who care and tell you to stop spending.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Keep your thoughts to yourself. An ability to see flaws in everyone will not make you popular and could even lead to disagreements. Remember to say something nice or don't say anything at all.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't let your lover cost too much. You may think gifts will win his or her heart, but paying too much will add stress about lack of funds.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Drastic changes in attitude are necessary. You have to think of yourself. Your talent will be recognized at work as long as your personal dilemmas don't interfere with your goals.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Question someone who is pushing his or her beliefs. Following your own philosophies will lead to new circles and open doors that will offer a unique vision of life.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Take things as they come today. The more carefree you are, the further you'll go. Don't let those around you who are conservative and lack vision hold you back.

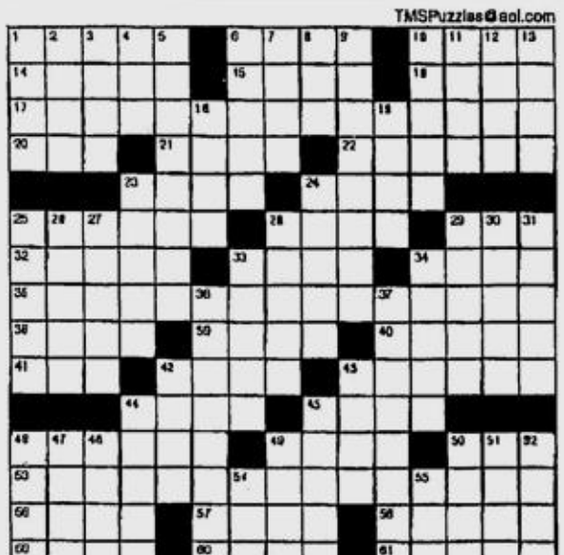
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Although upsetting, changes in your domestic situation will prove beneficial in the long run. If someone has been taking advantage of you, it's time to call it quits.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Whatever you do today, be sure to scale it down. You'll have a tendency to spend too much and promise too much. Take your time and make concrete plans.

Birthday Baby: You'll amaze others with your creative vision. You tune into what's going on around you and are always ready to stand up and be counted. You are passionate, direct and productive.

DAILY CROSSWORD

TMSPuzzles@aol.com



By Philip J. Anderson
Portland, OR
8/1/01

ACROSS
1 Italian isle
6 Meal course
10 Bancroft or Meara
14 Man from Manchuria
15 Jason's ship
16 Craving
17 Fantasy
20 987-65-4321 group
21 Eve's grandson
22 Ship's kitchen
23 Show elation
24 Scottish dagger
25 Four Sundays before Christmas
28 Mineral springs
29 Frenzied
32 Tropical creeper
33 Lena or Ken
34 Ward of "Once and Again"
35 Fantasy
38 Bullring cheers
39 Riviera city
40 Longfellow character
41 Donkey
42 __ fixe (obsession)
43 Salad ingredient
44 Redolence
45 That girl's
46 Heavy drinker
49 Writer Morrison
50 __ Angelico
53 Fantasy
56 Part of speech
57 Times of note
58 Supermarket passage
59 Medicinal quantity
60 Filt
61 Features to count?

DOWN
1 Crow calls
2 Sale-tag words
3 City on the Arno
4 Team cheer
5 Diabolical
6 Beauty parlor
7 Meal remnants
8 Exclamation of disgust
9 Heartfelt
10 Low joint
11 Singer Diamond
12 Hawaiian goose
13 On pins and needles
18 ICU element
19 Stirling negatives
23 Chaps
24 Backbone
25 Aluminum company
26 Gauges
27 Flower holders
28 Portion of bread
29 Gettysburg victor
30 Earth visitor
31 Mends by reweaving
33 Basketry willow
34 Monica of tennis
36 Countersigned
37 Vicious woman
42 March middle
43 Hereditary unit
44 Ultraviolet filter
45 Composer of "The Planets"
46 Fasten
47 Melville novel
48 Numbered musical piece
49 Ski tow
50 Actor Parker
51 Death rattle
52 Mingo on "Daniel Boone"
54 Writer Levin
55 "__ Bravo"

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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Maria makes magic in 'Mary D' Potter'

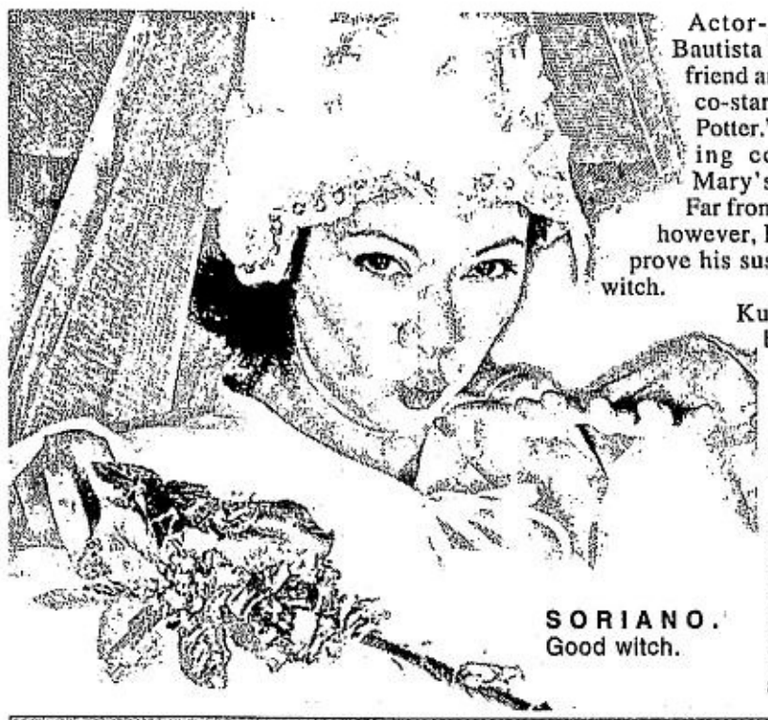
SHE has bewitched audiences both as a child actress and as a grown-up superstar. Now Maricel Soriano plays a good witch in ABS-CBN's new one-hour comedy. "Mary D' Potter," premiering tonight, Sept. 15.

Young widow

Maricel plays Mary Panyurutan, a young widow who supports her family—her Aunt Gelay (Nova Villa, sister Geri (Meryll Soriano), nephew Terry (Mel Martinez) and daughter Angel (Serena Dalrymple)—by making and selling clay pots. To her community, Mary is a helpful, dedicated neighbor. No one knows that she has a secret identity—Mary Panyurutan is a "white witch," a sorceress dedicated to doing good and helping others. She inherited her skills from her parents, both of whom worked in a travelling circus, but she turned her back on sorcery when she married her late husband.

Supernatural skills

Now, however, the opportunities for her to use her supernatural skills are becoming more and more frequent.



SORIANO. Good witch.

Actor-politician Herbert Bautista reunites with his good friend and "Kaluskos Musmos" co-star Maricel in "Mary D' Potter." Herbert makes his acting comeback as Kuling, Mary's next-door neighbor. Far from being a helpful friend, however, Kuling is determined to prove his suspicions that Mary is a witch.

Kuling lives with his blabbermoth wife Jossa (Izza Ignacio) and precocious son Buknoy (Yuuki Kadooka). Mel Kimura also is in the cast.

"Mary D' Potter" completes ABS-CBN's Saturday sitcom block, beginning with "Arriba Arriba at 7 p.m., "Mary D' Potter" at 8 p.m. and "Da Pilya and Da Pilot" at 9 p.m.

MARICEL with her co-stars Meryll Soriano and Serena Dalrymple.

Promising movies on TV this week

BY NESTOR U. TORRE

ON the HBO channel, Saturday, Sept. 15 at 11:30 p.m., "Awakenings." This is a beautifully performed film directed by Penny Marshall. It narrates the powerfully affecting true-to-life story of a painfully shy research doctor (Robin Wiliams) who takes a job at a Bronx hospital's chronic care ward in 1969—and discovers that his comatose patients still have life inside them.

Williams is excellent as the doctor, and Robert De Niro matches his level of performance as a patient who awakens from a 30-year coma to deal with life as an adult for the first time. Steven Zaillian's screenplay is based on the book (and experiences) of Dr. Oliver Sacks.

Other actors include Julie Kavner, Ruth Nelson, John Heard, Penelope Ann Miller and Max von Sydow. This film was first shown in 1990.

Sunday, Sept. 16 at 4:15 p.m., "The Two Jakes." The sequel to "Chinatown," directed by Jack Nicholson.

At 9:45 p.m., "Erin Brockovich," with Julia Roberts and Albert Finney. About a law clerk who leads an investigation and lawsuit against a utility company suspected of covering up a toxic waste scandal.

Monday, Sept. 17, "Death Becomes Her." Robert Zemeckis' film about a glamorous, self-absorbed star (Meryl Streep), and a woman scorned (Goldie Hawn) who vows revenge against her—at any price.

At 10:30 p.m., "Westlife Live: What Dreams May Come," a concert special. The Westlife boy band returns to their hometown, Dublin, Ireland for a homecoming show featuring their biggest hits like "If I Let You Go," "Swear It Again," "Uptown Girl," and "Flying Without Wings."

Tuesday, Sept. 18 at 6:30 a.m., "Postcards from the Edge." Mike Nichols directs Meryl Streep, Shirley Maclaine, Dennis Quaid, Gene Hackman and Richard Dreyfuss in this brilliant cinematic rendering of Carrie Fisher's novel about a young woman who falls prey to drugs while trying to pursue an acting career—in the shadow of a famous show biz mother.

At 5 p.m., "The Story of Us." A married couple deals with the highs and lows of 15 years of marriage to try to discover why they fell in love. Starring Bruce Willis and Michelle Pfeiffer.

Wednesday, Sept. 19, "Heaven Can Wait." Warren Beatty plays a football player who is taken to heaven ahead of schedule and has to return to "life" in another man's body. Beatty co-directed this film with Buck Henry.

At 6:45 p.m., "Matrix" with Keanu Reeves.

Thursday, Sept. 20 at 8 a.m., "The Opposite of Sex." Bold, clever black comedy about a truculent 16-year-old girl who runs away from home to stay with her gay half-brother. She willfully disrupts his relationships and sets his life into a spin.

Writer-director Don Roos creates a gallery of unusual and interesting characters, played by an exceptionally lively cast—Christina Ricci, Martin Donovan, Lisa Kudrow, Lyle Lovett and Johnny Galecki.

At 1 p.m., "Apt Pupil."

Friday, Sept. 21 at 3:45 p.m., "Dave." The US president is incapacitated by a stroke and is replaced by a lookalike. The double proceeds to win over the press and the public with his folksy ways. With Kevin Kline, Sigourney Weaver, Frank Langella and Ben Kingsley. Ivan Reitman directs.

Cinemax

Saturday, Sept. 15 at 8 a.m., "The Green Mile" with Tom Hanks.

Sunday, Sept. 16 at 12:30 p.m., "Elizabeth."

At 9 p.m., "Tumbleweeds." Bittersweet comedy-drama about a teenage girl who spends her childhood on the road and is now determined to make her free-spirited mother put down roots in a small town. With Janet McTeer and Kimberly J. Brown.

Monday, Sept. 17 at 6 a.m., "East of Eden" with James Dean.

Tuesday, Sept. 18 at 10:30 p.m., "Taxi Driver" with Robert De Niro.

Wednesday, Sept. 19 at 8:15 a.m., "Star Trek Insurrection." Disobeying federation orders, Capt. Picard and his crew protect the peaceful residents of a planet which possesses the secret to the fountain of youth from their invading enemies.

Friday, Sept. 21 at 9:45 a.m., "Oliver!" Rousing musical based on Charles Dickens' "Oliver Twist."

PROMO MECHANICS

Grand Prize (1 winner):

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RAFFLE PROMO

1. Every purchase of the following Philips Audio products from participating Philips' Metro Manila dealers during the promo period entitles the customer to one raffle coupon to the *a1 – the A List Tour raffle promo*:
   a) Philips Mini HiFi (FW-D5, FW-D1, FW-R8, FW-R7, FW-V720, FW-V320, FW-V220, FW-V55, FW-V39 FW-V28)
   b) Philips Micro HiFi (MC-55, MC-20)
   c) Philips Dynamax CD Radio Cassette Recorders (AZ2025,AZ1575,AZ1065, AZ1055,AZ1050,AZ1008,AZ1146, AZ1147,AZ1148)
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2. Customers must print their name, address, telephone number, type/model of Philips Audio product purchased, dealer branch; and affix their signature on the raffle coupon. Raffle coupons with incomplete information will be disqualified.
3. Raffle coupons must be dropped at the *a1 – The A List Tour Raffle Promo* drop boxes located at participating Philips' Metro Manila dealers. Deadline for dropping of entries is on September 30, 2001.
4. Raffle draw will be held on October 3, 2001, 10:00a.m. at the Philips House, 106 Valero St., Salcedo Village, Makati.
5. Winners will be drawn in the following order: 3rd prizes, 2nd prizes and Grand prize.
6. A winner can only win once. In the event that a winner's name is drawn more than once, only the prize with a bigger value will be given to the winner.
7. Winners will be notified through registered mail and telephone; names of raffle winners will be published on October 5, 2001 in leading newspapers.
8. Winners must claim their prizes at the Philips House, 106 Valero St., Salcedo Village, Makati c/o Ms. Elen Torres. The 20% tax for prizes exceeding Php 10,000.00 will be shouldered by Philips Consumer Electronics.
9. In claiming their prizes, winners are required to present a valid ID, the winning raffle coupon stub and sales invoice or official receipt of the corresponding Philips audio product.
10. Concert tickets must be claimed from Oct. 3 to Oct. 5, 2001 and other Prizes can be claimed within 60 days from date of notification.
11. Concert Ticket prizes are not convertible to cash or kind.
12. Promo period is from September 7, 2001 to September 30, 2001.
13. Promo is offered only to participating Philips' Metro Manila Audio dealers.
14. Employees of Philips, its advertising and promo agencies and their relatives up to the 2nd degree of consanguinity or affinity are disqualified from joining the promo.

PREMIUM PRIZES

1. Consumers will also get premium prizes with every purchase of Philips Audio products from September 7 to September 30, 2001.

Special Edition a1 VCD "No More Video – the Making" and One Concert Ticket for every purchase of the following products

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One (1) Concert Ticket for every purchase of the following products

Philips CD Recorder Mini HiFi (FW-R8, FW-R7) Philips Micro HiFi (MC-20)
Philips CD Radio Cassette Recorders (AZ2025, AZ1575, AZ1146/47/48)
Philips Portable Audio Players (SA125 Rush, EXP101)
Philips Accessories worth P2,000 minimum one-time purchase

2. Concert Tickets and VCD premium prizes must be claimed from September 7 to 30, 2001 upon presentation of a valid ID and the Sales Invoice or Official Receipt of the product bought at the fl. redemption centers:
   a. Philips House 106 Valero St., Salcedo Village, Makati Tel. 8100161 to 67 c/o Ms. Elen Torres
   b. Philips Booth Western Exhibit, New Farmers Cubao (until Sept. 16, 2001)
   c. Philips Booth Automatic Exhibit, Festival Mall, Alabang (until Sept. 12, 2001)
   d. Philips Booth Abenson, Robinson's Place Manila (until Sept. 15, 2001)
   e. Philips Booth SM Fairview Exhibit, SM City Fairview (until Sept. 16, 2001)
   f. Philips Booth Automatic Tutuban Exhibit, Tutuban Mall Manila (until Sept. 29, 2001)
   g. SM Appliance (for SM Appl. Purchase only) SM Megamall, North EDSA Annex, Southmall and Centerpoint
   h. DDB Phils. 11/F JMT Corp Cond. ADB Ave., Ortigas Center Pasig City Tel Nos. 6352171 to 82 c/o Brenda Lingan
   i. Luminous Manpower Sales & Promo Inc. 220-B 7th Ave., West Grace Park, Caloocan City Tel. Nos 3621499, 3621520, 3300290 c/o Abraham Santos
   j. Pernet Promotions Inc. Rm. 211 Ablaza Bldg., Araneta Ave. cor. E. Rodriguez, Q. C. Tel. Nos 7421343/ 4143153 c/o Sally Escriba
3. Promo period is from Sept. 7-30, 2001.
4. Concert tickets not claimed on or before September 30, 2001 and VCD prizes not claimed within 60 days from notification will be forfeited with prior approval from DTI.
5. Concert tickets and VCD prizes are not convertible to cash or kind.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1361 Series of 2001

List of Participating Metro Manila Dealers: SM APPLIANCE: Fairview, Harrison Plaza, Makati, Manila, Megamall, North Edsa Annex, North Edsa III, North Edsa Main, Rockwell, Southmall, Sta. Mesa, Cubao, Sucat. **WESTERN:** SM North Edsa Annex, P. Tuazon, Farmers Plaza, Festival Mall, Megamall, Recto, Grand Central, Kalookan, Citimall, Commonwealth. **ABENSON:** Festival Mall, Grand Central, Harrison Plaza, SM North Edsa, Quad, Shangri-La, Jaka Sucat, Pearl Plaza Baclaran, Electroworld Cubao, Big "R" Novaliches, Fairview, Robinson Ermita. **ANSON:** Landmark, Pasay Road, Galleria, Binondo. **AUTOMATIC CENTRE:** Tutuban, SM North Edsa, Glorietta 4, Southmall, Alabang Town Centre, Greenbelt, Salcedo Village Makati. **SOGO:** Giant, Galleria, Ali Mall, Glorietta 1, Filinvest. **MAKRO:** Novaliches, Sucat, Manila. **ESLA:** Fairview, Kalentong, Marikina, Baesa, Novaliches, Lagro, Paranaque, Alabang, Sucat, Pasig I, Pasig II, Espana, Kalookan, Makati. **WORLDWIDE:** Binondo. **ZOOM:** Quezon City. **ODYSSEY RECORDS:** Quad, Greenbelt, Guadalupe, Shaw Blvd., SM Megamall, Robinson's Galleria, Greenhills Shoppesville, SM Sta. Mesa, SM North Edsa Annex, SM North Edsa Basement, SM Fairview, Harrison Plaza, Tutuban Centermall, Ever Gotesco Ortigas, SM Southmall, Alabang Town Centre, Festival Mall, Robinson's Place Manila. **TOWER RECORDS:** Alabang Town Centre, Glorietta. **RADIO CITY:** SM North Edsa, SM Manila, SM Megamall, SM Fairview, SM Southmall, Robinson Ermita, Robinson's Galleria, Shangri-La Edsa, Quad III, Viramall.

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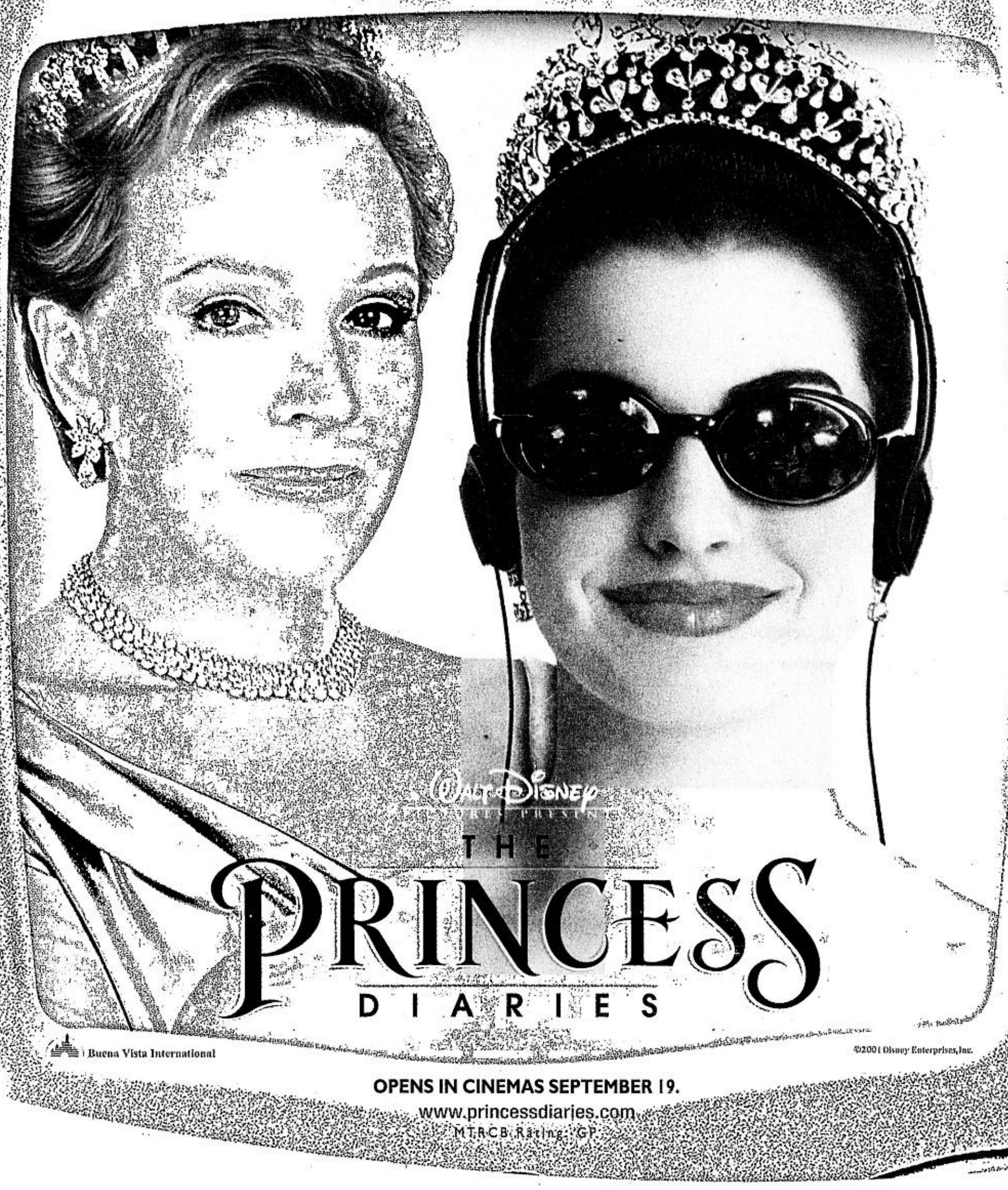

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Logos*	LOGO <keyword> and send to 229
Group Graphics Keywords	GROUP PD and send to 239
Group Graphics*	GROUP <keyword> and send to 239
Picture Messages List of Keywords	PIC PD and send to 239

To Get Princess Diaries...	Key In...
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Screen Savers List of Keywords	SAVER PD and send to 239
Screen Savers**	SAVER <keyword> and send to 239
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All text messages sent are P2.50 each.

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Promo Mechanics:

1. From Sept 14-20, 2001, all Smart Cinema Club members who download a logo, picture message, group graphic, or screen saver shall get one computer-generated point each. The top fifty cinema club members with the highest points collected will win two free regular screening movie passes each for The Princess Diaries at SM cinemas (GMA only). To know the number of points accumulated, key in DPOINTS and send to 239.
2. Winners will be notified via text message or a voice call to their registered cellfone number.
3. Prizes will be sent to the winner's registered address. Winners should present their active Smart GSM cellfone with the winning SIM number and valid I.D. w/ photo.
4. Smart Money cardholders who use their card to buy any movie ticket at SM Megamall from Sept. 14-20 will automatically win a pair of Princess Diaries movie tickets. Smart Money cardholders can win only once and may claim their tickets at TSI Center located at SM Megamall, 5th level, Bldg. A. Princess Diaries movie passes will be accepted at any SM cinema until the end of the regular screening day.
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PD3 -- What's your personality?
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To answer the test questions, simply press REPLY and key in the number (1, 2, 3, or 4) corresponding your choice. Press SEND.

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NIEVERA. A giver not a taker.

SaturdaySPECIAL

Martin Nievera sings from the heart

BY MARY ANN A. BAUTISTA

MARTIN Nievera professes not to have a plan for anything. Nope, he's not taking his career for granted. In fact, he is extremely grateful that he still has supporters after 19 long years in the industry. He's been so busy that he almost lost his voice after having 32 shows in Onstage, Greenbelt for "Martin Nievera Live."

Spontaneity

His great voice and spontaneity are reasons why he continues to draw crowds and have endless repeat performances in Onstage. Yet Martin quickly admits that he never plans to top himself during each performance. "I never think about topping myself. My jokes are spontaneous, I even highlight my mistakes when I get up on stage. I make fun of myself. I break all the performers' rules. For example, when someone goes to the john while I'm singing, I don't ignore it. I make it part of my act and make it obvious. I am consciously interacting with my audience. I also jump off the stage and sing with my audience. At the end of each show, I know the names of the people who came to watch me," Martin relates.

He describes himself as a giver. He is at his best after a concert performance because sing-

MARTIN/p. F4

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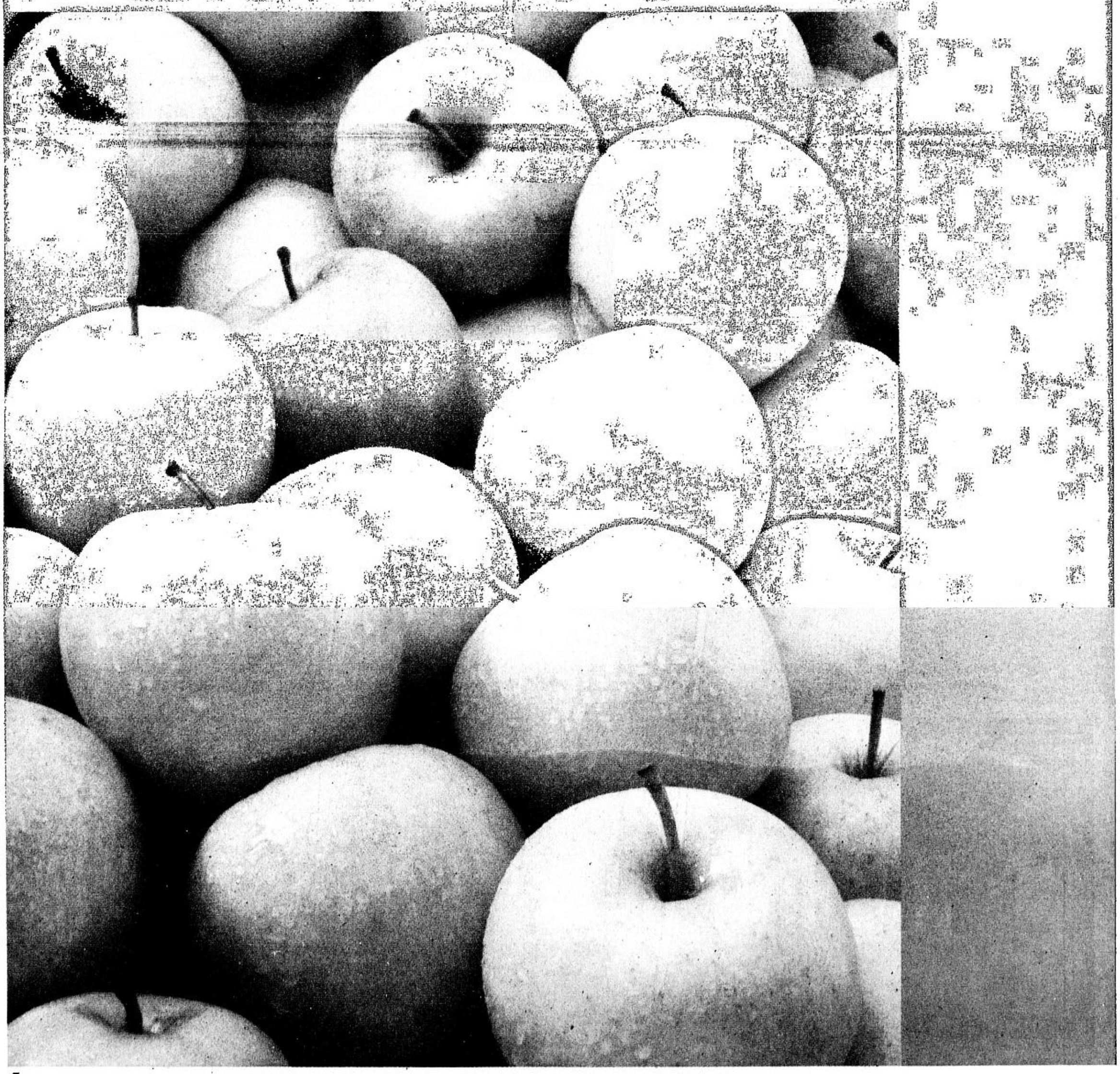

Ogie Alcasid performs at Onstage on Oct. 5

ASIA'S Songbird ReginеVelasquez had back-to-back monster hits in "Kailangan Ko'y Ikaw" and "Pangako," which were both used as theme songs for her two blockbuster movies.

Concert queen Pops Fernandez and R&B pop band Freestyle did a duet of "Bakit Ngayon Ka Lang" in the latter's first major concert.

All these hits were composed by Ogie Alcasid.

Debut album

When Ogie's debut album was launched in 1989 from which the song "Nandito Ako" was lifted, he already proved to be a promising OPM hitmaker. A month after it was released, the album already earned for Ogie a gold record award. And so did his 1992 album, "A Step Ahead" which included the romantic hit, "Mahal Kita, Walang Iba" and "On Air" (1994) from which "Dahil Mahal Kita" and "Bakit Ngayon Ka Lang" were included. Both albums also turned platinum in no time.

Ogie continued his hitmaking streak as his other recordings also turned gold, namely: "A Different Light"(1995),"Ogie 10th-All The Best" (1998) and "Now and Then" (2000).

ALCASID. Hitmaker.

Ogie's songs also proved to be in demand over the airwaves. "Nandito Ako" was dwTM's Song of the Year and RX's Monster Hit in 1989 while dwFM awarded "Pangako" as Most Requested Song and so was his another original hit, "Mahal Kita, Walang Iba" in 1993. The latter was also RX's Most Requested Song in the same year.

Ogie's songs were warmly accepted not only by music enthusiasts but also earned the nod of industry critics which led to countless recognitions for him.

Awit Awards

For three consecutive years, Awit Awards gave him major nominations and awards, namely: 1993 Best Performance by a Male Recording Artist for "Mahal Kita, Walang Iba," then the same award the following year for "Bakit Ngayon Ka Lang" and 1995 Best Produced Record for "Bakit Ka Lumayo."

Just last year, Ogie also received from the same award-giving body the Song of the Year and Best Ballad Recording for the song, "Kung Mawawala Ka." It likewise gave Ogie MTV's Best Male Music Video for the year 2000 as the same group also awarded him recently with me same recognition and the Best Song Music Video for his latest hit, "Kahit Na."

On Oct. 5 and 6, Ogie will sing his compositions in "Ogie Sings Alcasid" at Onstage Greenbelt. Special guest is Regine Velasquez. Showtime is at 9 p.m. Musical direction is by Archie Castillo, stage direction by Rico Mortel. Call 813-8999.

Ladine Roxas tops Voice of Asia songfest

LADINE Roxas won the grand prize at the recently concluded Voice of Asia 2001 Song Festival held in Almaty, Kazakhstan. Ladine won over a field of 17 international singers and artists and bagged the top prize of $10,000.

Original composition

Her winning song "Where There Is Love" is an original composition by Vehnee A. Saturno who likewise, won as best composer in the prestigious international contest.

Now on its 11th year, the Voice of Asia is an annual music festival that features a friendly competition of songs in varied styles, trends and national cultures of participating countries.

It won in 1997—during the 32nd Assembly General of International Federation of Festival Organizations (or FIDOF) in Cannes, France—the Festival of the Year Award.

Some of the participants and guests in past festivals were Gloria Gaynor, Boney M., Yalla, Anastasia and Gibson Brothers Bands and top music industry professionals Joe Boyd and Peter Jenner.

This year's guests were Suzy Quattro and Pato Banton of England; and, MTV-Europe Stars, Bomfunk MC of Finland.

Ladine co-hosts GMA's "Master Showman" and has performed all over Asia. She recently released her debut album under Viva Records where she composed two English songs and collaborated on a Tagalog ballad with her producer Vehnee Saturno.The theme song "Anong Daling Sabihin" for the movie "Bulaklak Ng Maynila," which she interpreted, was voted the Best Theme Song at the Metro Manila Film Festival and Film Academy of the Philippines. The song was written by Saturno.

Long-term contract

Ladine is poised to embark on an international career. London-based Candid Records has signed her to a long term exclusive contract. Her first album under the new deal was produced in Australia and is due to be released in the UK in the Spring of 2002. This album is the first R&B project by Candid for its subsidiary Big City and the songs are composed by Ladine herself and other well-known composers and musicians. She is due to tour Europe, Asia and the USA to promote her album during the year 2002.

LADINE. Going international.

Giving the cafe phenomenon a twist

With coffee shops everywhere trying hard to keep up with the fast pace of the already-running urban dwellers, the city suddenly found itself wanting in places where one can relax, savor good food and enjoy long, pleasure-filled sips of good coffee. So when you find yourself in need of a temporary repose, you can't help but ask, "Where have all the cozy cafés gone?"

When you say that, of course, it's an authentic French-style café that you most probably have in mind. Good for you. Because in 1995, the first Boulangeries et Cafés Francais Delifrance – an established name for over 25 years in over 50 countries in 5 continents – came ashore. Soon enough, the name Delifrance became synonymous to good French taste worldwide. And for good reason.

Delifrance has never really left the wings of its parent company, Grand Moulins de Paris. A staunch believer in health and goodness in all aspects of life, all their farming methods are guaranteed to be environmentally sound. That is why every visit to Delifrance is like entering a whole new world of mouth-watering flavors, delicate textures and irresistible aromas. Wherever you find a Delifrance, you will surely find authentic French baked products – from les pains or bread like baguettes, batard, to patisseries like tarts and brioches or sweet bread, viennoiseries like croissants and turnovers, and other les sales or hot bakery savouries, salads and sandwiches.

Pushing gustatory satisfaction a bit further, Delifrance also offers a range of really good les petit-dejeuners or breakfast sets like the tartine set, bacon & egg set, breakfast omelette, ham set and smoked salmon set. With any of these, you can have cup after cup of the best coffee. If you want something a bit more filling, you can take a big bite of the juiciest sandwiches they offer like crabstick celery mayonnaise and the tuna seafood mayonnaise, among others.

But what really puts Delifrance a cut above the rest is that it has grown up not only with good taste but with impressive values as well. A pioneer in food safety and a champion of healthy and safe products, it has the most stringent standards in the selection of ingredients and the food production process.

Delifrance is all about the total wellness of customers. It takes care not only of their physical well-being but their emotional needs as well. The good food, the good coffee, the aroma of freshly-baked bread and pastries – even the architectural design and decorative scheme of every Delifrance café – all evoke a feeling of relaxation. It is peaceful and homey, very conducive to introspection, intimate conversations and appreciation of good food. It encourages indulgence and slowing down. It's the twist in the coffee shop phenomenon we've all been waiting for.

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Surreal and successful in America

STREET SMART

Mandy Navasero

MEET wife, mother and internationally successful Filipino surreal and modern artist—Nanie Dinsay-Steyn. I feel good whenever I hear about, or better yet, meet Filipinos who are successful here and abroad. More so these days when all the buzz one hears is often discouraging. But as a veteran of Edsa 1, I know good things come after bad because there are many things going for the Filipino and faith in the Almighty sustains us always.

Featured artist

Back to Nanie. She is the featured artist in "Art in Painting," an art show at the City Hall Rotunda Gallery, Jersey City, New Jersey, USA, until Sept. 28. Her surreal art is inspired by her environment, her family and the people she interacts with. "Sad, dark colors appear in my work when I am lonely and bright colors when I'm happy," she says. "Through the years, I have developed my own style. In every line, color and shape, there's meaning, there's life."

She has chalked a number of impressive achievements in the past 10 years. In the Philippines, she is a member of the Creative Artists Group and the Tuesday Group in Manila. A protégé of University of the Philippines Fine Arts Prof. Fernando Sena and the late Dean Jose Joya, she created a stir in the US art community with her participation in shows in New York.

In 1997, Nanie was the only female artist who exhibited at the "Prelude to Chicago" in Manila Hotel and the "Kulapol" art show in the Midwest together with a group of 16 artists from Manila and Chicago.

Hall of Fame

In 1998, Nanie received Chicago's Filipino American Hall of Fame Award for visual arts. She has since exhibited her works in New York, New Jersey, Chicago, and Milwaukee, USA as well as Manila and Boracay, Philippines.

Her more recent works catalogue her journey from being a successful surrealist to an innovative abstract expressionist. Her paintings have been said to affect the eyes in different ways but she prefers to let people see what they want to. She also gives simple titles to her works, such as the earlier "The Window," "Fish in a Box," and "Agony of a Woman."

The artist is also a wife and a mother. Married to business consultant Ron Steyn, she has a pre-teen daughter and a two-year old son. Last but not least, Nanie is also a sensitive, supportive teacher who nurtures and inspires. Nanie dexterously balances her roles as wife, mother, artist and teacher and continues to reap success, one after the other, for herself and her country.

Future plans

Her future plans include organizing an art show at the Lincoln Center in New York, an art festival in Manila, an art show in Wall street to be followed by a show in Canada, a charity event to raise funds for the homeless. And always uppermost, is to give the same breaks she has received to fellow Filipino artists.

Nanie Dinsay-Steyn, a lady with remarkable street smarts, may your tribe increase!

Ongoing September Photography Lecture Series. Sept. 15 and 16, Glamour Cover and Fashion Photography; Sept. 22 and 23, Product and Food Photography. Venue: The Garden House near Gil Puyat ave. cor. Roxas blvd,, Pasay City. Saturday sessions from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. will have morning lectures ending with an open forum. A slide show and lighting demos follow in the afternoon. Sunday mornings, participants may be required to shoot an assignment and rush one 8 x 10 color print for critique in the PM sessions. Each participant must bring a 135mm camera preferably with a 105mm lens and color films. Contact numbers: 522-1901 and 522-1905.

AND BABY MAKES THREE. The artist juggles her time among her two children, her husband Ronald, homemaking and her art.

NANIE Dinsay-Steyn and her work, "Fish in a Box."

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PICTURE MESSAGES

Martin Nievera sings from the heart

(From page F1)

ing makes him happy. "If I have inspired at least one person in the audience because of my song, I am relieved and happy. I know that I have given my best at that particular moment. I am romantic, poetic and generous after I perform because I had three hours of happiness. I am a giver, than a receiver. I like giving," he shares.

Indeed 19 years have not erased his passion for music and life. He brings a notebook with him to keep track of his thoughts and moods. Sometimes when the inspiration hits him, he can even write a song. He wrote "You Are My Song" while he was stuck in traffic and " Love Conquers All" (a song for the "Rent" soundtrack) on board a plane bound for Malaysia.

Melodies

"I'm not very good with melodies. I can compose better with a melody. When Louie Ocampo and Homer Flores give me a melody, I can come up with the lyrics in 15 minutes," Martin grins.

After the success of his three "Forever" albums ("Forever," "Return to Forever," "Forever, Forever"), he wanted to do an all original album but he did the "Souvenirs" album instead. It's a combination of his "Journeys," "Roads" and "Forever" albums with three new songs.

Sharing an album with another recording artist seems to be the trend these days, but Martin hesitates to record an album with his ex-wife, Pops Fernandez. "Pops asked me to work with her in a concert but my schedule won't permit it. Pops and I work well together. We are a great team. But right now would not be the best time to record with her. I don't want to capitalize on the *kilig* factor. I don't want to confuse the public that we are getting back together. Pops and I have become better friends now and I'd like to work with her, but now is not the right time," Martin says.

Disarming honesty

His honesty can be disarming. He makes sense one minute, then becomes totally out of control the next. Thank goodness he injects the same honesty when he sings and talks. His ultimate dream is to prove the saying: "You can't have everything" wrong.

"I want everything: security, privacy, the public life, success, happiness and love. What you see onstage is who I really am. I'm just a regular guy with hopes and dreams just like everyone else," Martin declares.

He is a sensitive, soulful singer and an articulate talk show host, yet it seems that happiness still eludes him. Isn't he happy with his life?

Happiness

"I watched Oprah recently and I agree with her that happiness is not about who you're with. Happiness is being happy with who you are at the moment. I am happy with what I have now. I am grateful that the public has given me a second chance. I think my best traits are, I don't take life seriously and I love what I do. Singing is my happiness. I have never considered it as a job. I don't mind singing the same song over and over again because my audience is different each time. The moment, mood and flavor will be different so I can attack the song in a different way. Because even the same song can mean different things to different people," Martin smiles.

Yes, even if the "Concert King" doesn't have a castle at the moment, each song he sings lives in the hearts of the people who hear it.

VJs Sarah, KC and Belinda.

How many moments have you missed because you don't own a camera?

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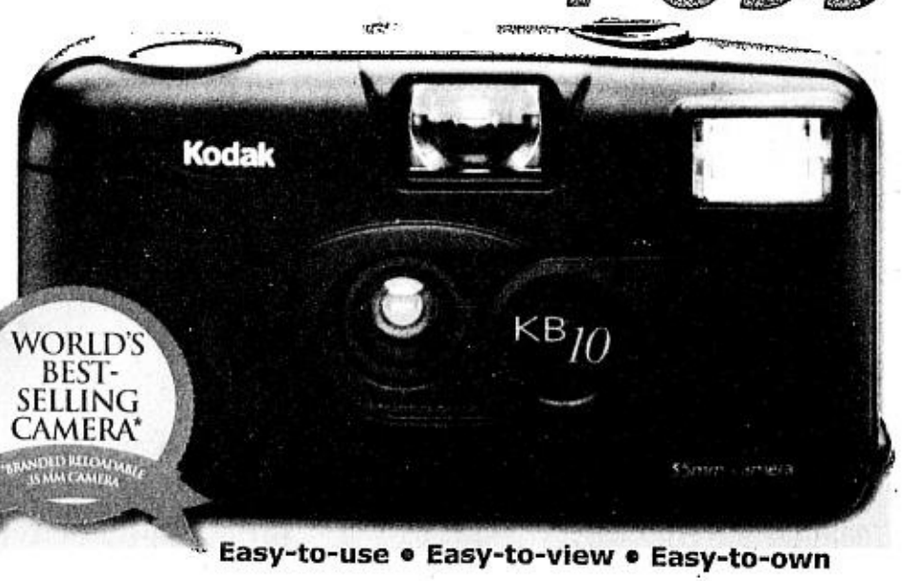

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MTV, Sauza Zaz join forces for Unified Domination bar tour

MTV Philippines and Sauza Zaz dominated Manila's nightlife by hitting top bars from July 21 to Aug. 11, with MTV and Sauza Unified Domination! They invaded Ponana and brought in DJs Manolet and Jed Dario, they hit Wherelese? Club and featured the best of R&B with 7 shots of Wisdom, they took over Mistral with DJs Anthony Kierulf and David Jacob, and traveled to Republic of Malate with Blues rats and DJ Steve Mills.

MTV and Suaza Zaz also presented the second wave of Unified Domination bar tour, by hitting Pravda last Aug. 31 with DJs David Jacob and Anothony Kierulf at Pravda, and 78Orange with DJs Nicky Jurado, Kevin Ruiz and Mumph last Sept. 8

Be sure to check out Friends at St. Francis Square, Ortigas today, and Dish at Powerplant, Rockwell as MTV churns out the best of R&B with the soulful voices of Radha of Kulay, Kim from 7 Shots of Wisdom, and singing sensation Kyla on Sept. 21.

Don't miss out on all the action, as MTV and Sauza Zaz join forces to bring you Unified Domination!

BORJA, SARMENTA AND MARQUEZ. More poignant interpretation.

'The Vagina Monologues' in Filipino extended

THE NEW Voice Company production of "The Vagina Monologues" in Filipino continues its run this week at the Music Museum.

Filipino feel

The play in translation, has given the monologues a more Filipino feel—with many aspects of the text adapted to a more Philippine context. The result is a more poignant, hilarious, moving and powerful interpretation of women's issues.

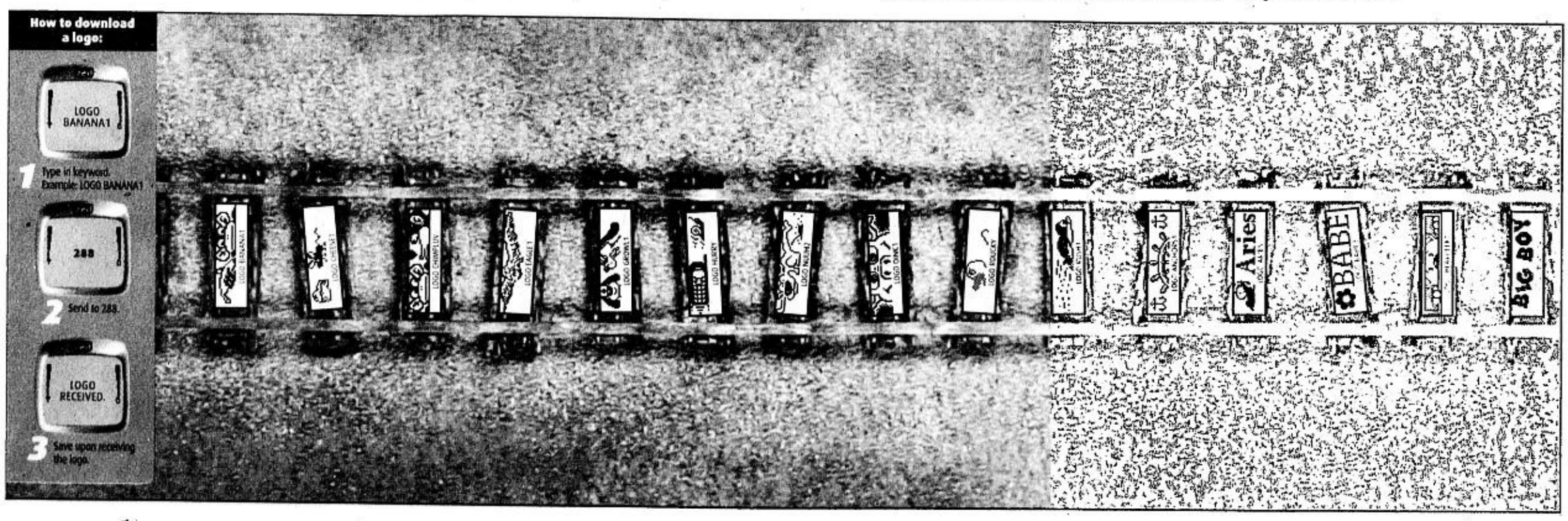
"The Vagina Monologues" in Filipino is translated by award-winning playwrights and poets Glecy Atienza, Joi Barrios and Luna Sicat. Giving life to the monologues in our own language are Pinky Marquez, Harlene Bautista-Sarmenta and Arlene Borja,. Newcomer Missy Maramara understudies all the part. Direction is by NVC Associate Artistic Director Rito Asilo.

After the performance tonight, the Filipino version will be extended until Sept. 21 and 22 (Friday and Saturday).

English version

The English version will then have one special weekend series on Oct. 5 and 6, featuring new cast members, also at the Music Museum.

For tickets, block-buying and show information, contact the New Voice Company office at 896-5497/ 896-6695 and 899-0630 or e-mail at nvcpost@hotmail.com.



Heady nights with Ishmael at Grey November

BY BEHN CERVANTES

(Conclusion)

EVEN then there was already a "Thank goodness it is Friday" spirit that drove the young to search out a good night on Fridays. Saturdays was expectedly busy especially after the patrons tired of more formal parties around town. They would then descend on Grey to let down their hair and wait for the sun to rise.

Smoking

Smoking was so in during those years Grey looked like it were floating somewhere in the clouds except that when you stepped out for fresh air you smelled of cigarettes. The awful odor would stick to your clothes, hair and body all night and the next day too if you didn't take a complete bath when you went home at 4 or 5 in the morning. The company was great and the energy so sustained nobody left until the wee small hours of the morning.

After all, the artists and would-be artists who were regular faces there included colorful characters like Rolando Tinio, Ella Luansing, Nick Agudo and his friend Butch Josue, Nestor Torre, Ofelia Gelvezon, Ariel Ureta, Joey Gosengfiao, Elwood Perez, Jonas Sebastian, Anton Juan, Noel Mallonga, Allan Cosio, Nick Lizaso, Boy Suzara, Jun Francisco, Nic Tiongson, Des Bautista Gary Flores, Norma Japitana, Lorna Montilla, Jo San Diego, Bibsy Carballo, ballet dancer Eddie Elejar, fortune teller Madam Neleb, singer Bobby Gonzales, movie macho Vic Vargas and many, many more recognizable names.

Boisterous group

We would all head for Grey after the last full show of a critically praised movie in Cubao, Rizal ave. and Quezon blvd. Others would do the same immediately after rehearsing a play at Peta, Repertory Philippines, UP or UE. Still others who were not in the arts went there after dinner to while away hours in the company of a boisterous, happy and yes, gay group.

There, dreams and schemes were shared. In fact, the first time I went there (upon the invitation of Ishma), I met Joma Sison many, many years after our UP Dramatic Club years. I didn't realize he had already founded the new Commnist Party of the Philippines.

Indeed, a vibrant and disparate group of artists frequented Grey giving it a now popular bohemian reputation. They also energized the smoky, noisy café where its colorful patrons held free-for-all discussions on any and all topics under the sun. They were beginning to discover themselves in more ways than one. To them, Ishma was confidante, host and headwaiter of Grey November all rolled into one. He relished playing the different roles, too.

Watchful eye

Although Ishma encouraged gay abandon, he kept a watchful eye on the patrons' conduct. The last thing he wanted was trouble for Manila had already seen the demise of an erstwhile popular café in Mandaluyong called Black Angel. That once popular hangout was closed down because of a series of gunfights and the like. To be sure, Manila's restless young wanted a place where they could have a riotous time, where they could be loud, be funny but nevertheless safe and secure in their fantasies, eccentricities and moments of abandon.

Grey November allowed them to have all that and more. It was one happy place and, well apparently gay too since many were now slowly but surely coming out of the claustrophobic closets they had trapped themselves and enjoying new-found freedom among similar liberated souls.

Business was good for Grey. On his part, Ishma apparently enjoyed providing a focal point of artistic energy and vision. He enjoyed listening to and encouraging artistic ambitions and endeavors.

Ishma noted that his weakest night was Wednesday. It was, after all the middle of the week so business was predictably poor. The regulars would attend to other needs at that point of the week. Ishma came up with a novel idea. He had these many friends from the performing arts, especially Theatre. He had been with the UP Dramatic Club in Diliman during his college years. He also knew FEU theatre personalities like Nick Agudo, Sarah Joaquin, Tony Joaquin and Butch Josue. He was working with film director Bert Avellana so he was familiar with Daisy and her brood Mari and Ivi. He was a friend of Tita Muñoz, Rolando Tinio, Bobby Gonzales, Gary Lising, Nestor Torre, Jo Sandiego and more. Heck, he knew everyone.

Wednesday happening

Hey, why not have a Wednesday happening? Nothing fancy. No frills and unnecessary expense. These happenings, an in thing to do then would be good and personal art. Exhibits, solo concerts, dramatic readings and intimate plays would be great for that hole in the wall café that already had a ready and willing audience.

He asked the different friends if they would be interested. "A venue folks!" he seemed to say to many artists eager to be seen and heard. It was like a veritable matador's red cape that quickly attracted performing artists. There was no talent fee, but Ishma asked you to come earlier with your cast to partake of a dinner prepared by his doting mom. You could also have all the beer you could drink that night. Boy, did he have takers.

Tita Muñoz gave a riveting solo performance of "Sorry Wrong Number." Rolando Tinio showcased the talent of his acting prodigy Ella Luansing. Nick and Butch did a stunning reading of Albee's "Zoo Story." Ariel Ureta did a one-man act. Joey Gosengfiao did an excerpt of a play. The Avellana clan did a play one Wednesday. Soon, it was the "in" place to perform. He asked me to do an evening of risqué poetry "Not Tonight Josephine" with my sister Nena who was then a Miss Caltex finalist. That was successful.

Verbal spat

He asked me to do another Wednesday night so I did the one-act play "The Apollo of Bellac" with Pinky Rigor Farolan, Cris Vertido, Armida Sigiuon Reyna, Lino Brocka and myself. Lino came late for the performance. I was furious at him for making us wait. In fact, Ishma who was a stickler for time was ready to read his part. This incident resulted in a verbal spat whose repercussions lasted for 17 years. We only became friends again when we worked together in Mapco (Movement to Abolish the Presidential Commitment Order) and then even more intimately during the anti-Martial Law fight after the assassination of Ninoy Aquino.

During the height of Grey's popularity, Wednesday evenings were an important weekly calendar date. You had to be there. You jotted that down in your little memo pad. Others had the same idea so the tiny place was packed to the rafters, as in sardine-can packed. You stood chest to butt with someone else in the joint if you didn't come in early enough to grab a chair. Ishma started at 9 sharp and, to control human traffic, locked the door.

Frustrated customers

Dozens of frustrated customers waited outside peering through transparent portions of the glass wall. Others, who were more daring, would sneak to the back of the café. They would then clamber over the adobe wall and watch the performance from an open kitchen door. Smoke was everywhere. It was the easiest audience to please for laughter came easy to the group Everyone went there for a fun time after all so all ensured that would be available to anyone with an open mind and heart.

Grey welcomed anyone and everyone who wanted to have a good time. One night after a performance of "Bye Bye Birdie" I took the very talented Carol de la Paz and other Upsilonian and Sigma Deltan cast members like Rovi Juan, Jake Marques, Mian Rosales, Efren Gancayco to Grey. There was animated singing going on when we arrived. We responded with a lively number from the musical. Soon, a friendly competition was a-brewing with the smiling Ishma abetting the spontaneous 'happening." Finally, I prodded the wonderful Carol to do her solo number "Spanish Rose" on top of the tiny black table.

Spanish dance steps

Without a moment's hesitation the former soloist of National Artist Leonor Orosa Goquinco's "Filipinescas" stepped on a chair and went on top of that table to render the number embroidered with some Spanish dance steps. *Ole!* That was the KO punch. The competing groups surrendered with an extensive round of applause for game Carol. Such were the fun and games we played then in Grey.

Patrons would hop from one table to the other depending on the topic of conversation. Gossip was rich. Sometimes, a usually ebullient patron would suddenly turn prim and proper. *Bakit?* Why? *Pourquoi?* "Cat's eye," he'd whisper. That meant someone close to the family was there. That party was not to discover he was out of the closet. That explained the macho transformation. Such things were understood by Grey habitués.

Grey continued to enjoy the company and business of its regular customers. Then, sometime in 1969 Ishma confided to me after I saw him discussing something with documentary filmmaker Ben Pinga that he had received a grant to study film in India. India? He informed me that that vast subcontinent produced the most number of films in all of Asia. Hey, and don't forget Satjait Ray. He had been enjoying his work and film apprenticeship with Documentary Philippines that was owned and managed by the great Lamberto Avellana. Not too long after, Ishma left for India.

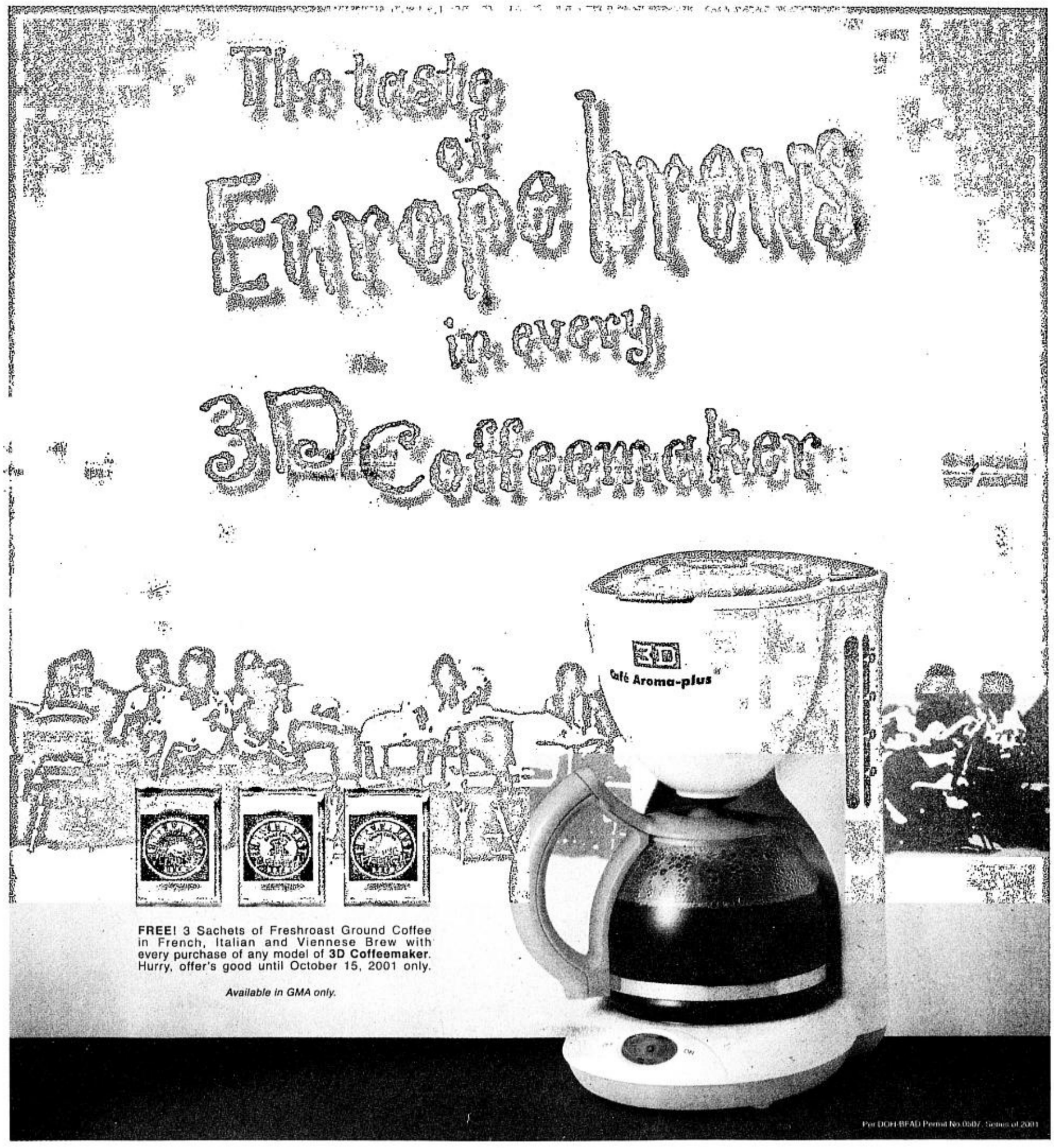
Grey without Ishma

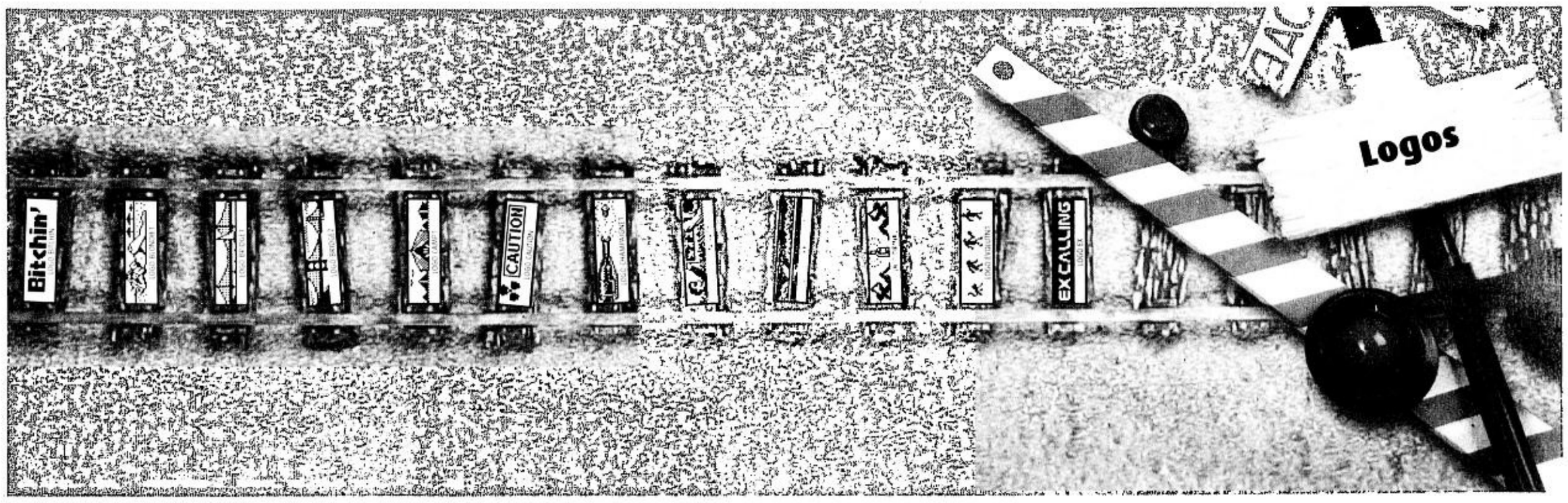
A regular customer of Grey bought the rights to the café from Ishma when he left for the Indian scholarship. We regulars still went there after Ishma's departure but the scene just wasn't the same without him, without his mom. There was no Ishma to trigger the nightly happenings, to focus the fun, to direct the whatever. Wednesday happenings no longer took place. The place lost a personal and vibrant fulcrum.

Slowly, the clientele moved up a block or two. They would now frequent and give good business to the more serious café called Indios Bravos.

Grey was now a thing of the past. So were those wonderful Wednesday happenings that gave a sector of Manila a rare night of art, fun and, yes games! However, they would remain wonderful memories for all who were there at the right place at the right time.

THE AUTHOR (third from right) with Grey habitues.





The Divas and Janno Gibbs

JANNO Gibbs performs duets with some of the finest female voices in the business—divas Kuh Ledesma, Jaya, Regine Velasquez, Zsa-Zsa Padilla, Pops Fernandez, Verni Varga and Lani Misalucha, pop princess Rachel Alejandro and Asia's Queen of Songs Pilita Corrales—in Viva Records' "Divas and I."

Pop diva

With pop diva Kuh Ledesma, Janno sings a Wency Cornejo composition, "Walang Hanggan." With soul queen Jaya, Janno reprises a Rey Valera classic, "Kung Kailangan Mo Ako." On the Barbra Streisand hit "Evergreen," Janno harmonizes with Asia's songbird Regine Velasquez. For his number with divine diva Zsa-Zsa Padilla, Janno picked one of the most popular OPM hits of the '70s, "I Don't Love You Anymore" composed by Butch Monserrat.

Then Janno and concert queen Pops Fernandez take listeners back to the movie "My Best Friend's Wedding" by combining voices on the movie's theme song, "I Say A Little Prayer." With jazz diva Verni Varga, Janno does another Butch Monserrat hit from the '70s, "Umagang Kay Ganda" originally interpreted by Ray-An Fuentes and Tillie Moreno.

Asia's nightingale Lani Misalucha makes her powerful voice go back-to-back with Janno on the Chaka Khan hit, "Through the Fire" composed by David Foster. Pop princess Rachel Alejandro, one of Janno's contemporaries in show biz, joins him on "Everyday," a composition of Mon Espia popularized by Agot Isidro.

Filipino ballad

But one of the most awaited cuts in the album is Janno's duet with Asia's Queen of Songs Pilita Corrales. The two perform a classic Filipino ballad, "Kapantay ay Langit" composed by George Canseco.

Also lending support to Janno is the popular band, Freestyle. The group's duet with Janno, "Paano" (composed by Ray-An Fuentes and originally performed by Gary Valenciano) is the album's carrier single.

But what makes this album really memorable is the support given to Janno by two of the special women in his life: his wife Bing Loyzaga (who played an important behind-the-scenes role by acting as the album's coordinator) and his sister Melissa Gibbs. Janno and Bing sing "Wind Beneath My Wings" while Melissa and Janno go '60s and interpret "Here Comes the Sun," one of the old hits by The Beatles and composed by Beatle George Harrison.

The songs were arranged by Jay Durias of South Border, Albert Tamayo, Marvin Querido, Marc Lopez and Mon Espia.

Important project

Even now that the album has been finished and released, Janno still can't believe his good fortune at being given such an important project. "It's not everyday that you get to make an album like this and work with such great singers and arrangers," he says. "I can't believe that Viva entrusted me with this album, but I'm very grateful."

"Divas and I" is now available at all leading record bars and outlets in CDs and cassettes. Viva Records has included a bonus VCD with the videos of "I Say A Little Prayer" (Janno with Pops), "Evergreen" (Janno with Regine) and "Kapantay ay Langit" (Janno with Pilita). There is also a bonus cut, "Ikaw Lamang," an old recording of Janno with Jaya. Louie Ignacio, Janno's director on SOP, directs the four videos.

Executive producers are Vic del Rosario Jr. and Vincent del Rosario. Album producers are Janno Gibbs and Civ Fontanilla.

JANNO and a few of the divas he worked with in his latest album: (counterclockwise) Kuh Ledesma, Zsa Zsa Padilla, Regine Velasquez and Pops Fernandez.

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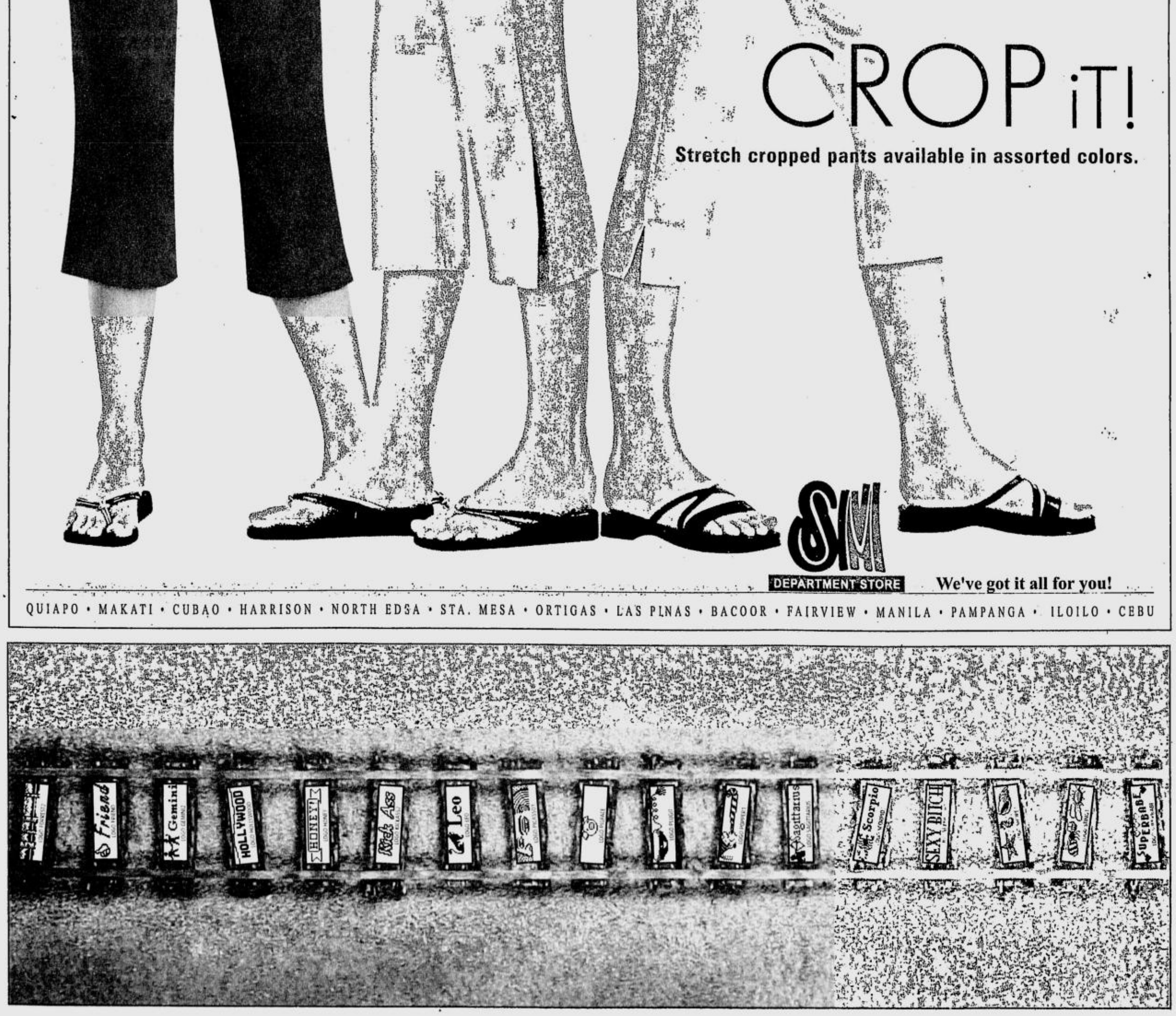

Aiza Seguerra's time has come

BY REMY M. UMEREZ

AIZA Seguerra's phenomenal hit "Pagdating ng Panahon" has reached the quadruple platinum mark less than five months after it was released in April 23, 2001. It means more than 160,000 units of CD's and cassettes were sold despite the rampant piracy. This phenomenal feat which no other major recording artists has achieved in so short a period of time only confirms the ascendancy of Aiza as the newest singing sensation in the recording field.

AIZA, with Vicor's MG Mozo, shows her platinum awards.

Success

Nobody questions the success of "Pagdating ng Panahon" even if actual sales figure reports have been kept confidential. Nor is there an attempt t counter the claim that the record awards is a product of hype which some record companies usually do.

The song has taken the whole country by storm. It has become some sort of a national anthem. Everybody is humming it. Even the dance girls of "Eat Bulaga" where Aiza used to star use the tune for the "Laban o Bawi" portion. The crowd sings the song with Aiza everytime she is on a promo tour.

Did Vicor president John Tan foresee the mega success of the song?

"When M.G. Mozo (Vicor's VP for Products and Promotions) told me she was relaunching Aiza Seguerra as a recording artist, it was a big gamble. She personally watched Aiza perform at the club somewhere in Cubao and after the show offered her a contract. I trust MG's decisions *kaya* I immediately approved the project. Aiza herself was surprised because she did not know that someone from a recording outfit was watching. Her performance was already an audition which she passed with flying colors.

Carrier cut

"As to choosing "Pagdating. . ." as the carrier cut, everybody was unanimous in her choice. We all felt we had a good and strong song which everybody can relate to," he says.

Would the song be just as successful if performed by another artist?

"I don't think so," says Tan. "The song became a hit because it was tailormade for Aiza. *Kung baga sa damit ay pinasadya.* Composers Moy Ortiz and Edith Gallardo spoke lengthily to Aiza gathering her thoughts which they could inject into the song. The first draft of the song had no essence of romance. It was all friendship stuff so I asked Edith to add the element of love in her lyrics. I wanted to convert it to a love ballad."

What is Aiza's impression of the song?

"I did not really bother too much about the beauty or simplicity of the song. They gave me the demo tape around midnight and having recorded two cuts for the album, I was just too tired to even listen to it. And when I did, I thought it was just like any other song *na simple at punung-puno ng* hope. I have my own favorite in the album and it was not "Pagdating..." My choice was "I See You Lord." *Hindi rin ako nakialam sa pagpili nila ng magiging* carrier single because I thought they know better since they have been in the music industry for so long. *Ang gusto ko lang naman ay kumanta at tumugtog ng gitara.* But with all the favorable feedback, I am overjoyed *na ganito ang naging* result *ng aming mga pagpapagod*," Aiza explains..

Aiza feels uncomfortable when people say she has outdone records set by the country's many premiere recording superstars, She doesn't want to use any titles as some of her fans are suggesting. Her own style and sound can speak for itself.

Aiza is set to go on a mall tour this month (Sept. 23 at Ali Mall and Sept. 30 at Robinsons Imus) her way of thanking everyone who supported her phenomenal album under Vicor.

Kiddies contests

There will be contests for kids ages 3 to 6 years old who can sing Aiza's hit song. It will be highlighted by Aiza's duet with a lucky fan singing her new single "Sorry."

"Sorry," a song Aiza dedicates to her parents, is composed by Edith Gallardo and Babsie Molina and is enjoying good airplay after its launch last Aug. 13. Its heart-warming melody and its simple yet sentimental lyrics would surely touch anyone's heart just like "Pagdating ng Panahon."

Velocity leads RM bands in September

THEY'RE not your typical band. They not only sing, they also dance and inject rollicking humor to their repertoire.

The Velocity Band, made up of band leader-keyboardist Joseph Cruz, vocalists Precious Zabala, Jomer Guevarra, Arjieh Jumao-As, Charmaine Bohler, guitarist Femio Yaoyao, bassist Mark Anthony Cruz and drummer Andik Alferez, are a breed apart.

Jomer can contort his face ala-Jim Carrey and send the audience rolling on the aisles.

Glib talker

Charmaine Bohler, a former TV personality and solo singer, can outtalk anyone with her glib repartee. Joseph is a composer himself, having written the song "Love Can Wait" for niece Geneva Cruz.

They have performed in Singapore, Diego Garcia, and will soon fly to Okinawa for a November performance.

Velocity, one of the many RM (Rey Martinez)bands is booked solid this month. They are at the Siete Picados, Westin Philippine Plaza Tusdays, Thursdays and Fridays; at the Le Boulevardier of the Intercon Hotel on Wednesdays and at The Conservatory of the Manila Peninsula on Fridays.

Schedules

Other RM Bands and their September schedules are: Band@Work—Mondays and Wednesdays at Le Boulevardier, Tuesdays at Kampo and Fridays at The Conservatory.

Shoop—Mondays and Tuesdays at R&B (Angeles, Pampanga), Wednesdays and Saturdays at Westin, Thursdays at Bedrock, Makati, Fridays at The Conservatory;

L.A.DI.—Thursdays at the Westin, Fridays at Mimosa and Saturdays at Arts Venue.

Blusssh-Mondays to Thursdays at Le Boulevardier and Fridays to Saturdays at R&B, Angeles, Pampanga.

The Heat—Tuesdays and Wednesdays at Le Boulevardier and Thursdays to Saturdays at Captain's Bar, Mandarin Oriental Hotel.

Outbreak—Wednesdays and Thursdays at R&B and Fridays at Le Boulevardier.

D2R—Fridays at the Westin, with a stint in South Africa later this mont.

Degree—Fridays at Le Boulevardier.

Gravity—Tuesdays and Wednesdays at Beck's Bar Grand Boulevard Hotel.

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Pagdating Ng Panahon — Aiza Seguerra — TONE PAGDATING
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Dambusters — Coates — TONE DAMBUSTR
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LOGOS

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Saturday SPECIAL

"WHATTAMEN" stars Marvin Agustin, Dominic Ochoa and Rico Yan.

It's boys vs girls in ABS-CBN's half-hour sitcoms

THE battle of the sexes is the theme of ABS-CBN's new half-hour sitcoms, "Whattamen" and "Attagirl," which premiered last Sept. 12 and 13. Both "Whattamen" and "Attagirl" are written and created by acclaimed writer-director Jose Javier Reyes, the mind behind the series "Abangan ang Susunod na Kabanata" and the current *teleserye* favorite "Sa Puso Ko, Iingatan Ka."

Heartthrobs

Noontime heartthrobs Rico Yan, Marvin Agustin and Dominic Ochoa get an able assist from Ai-Ai delas Alas in "Whattamen," ABS-CBN's glimpse into the mind of the modern Pinoy male airing Wednesdays at 9 p.m.

Best friends since performing on the young-adult series "Gimik," "Whattamen" grew out of the real-life chemistry between the three leads, which inspired the ABS-CBN brass to think of a proper showcase for Rico, Marvin and Dominic. "Whattamen" was what they came up with. John-D Lazatin directs.

But how much of the roles reflect the real lives of the actors? Rico plays Castro, the most mature and career-minded of the trio of roommates, who looks after his thriving business while mending a broken heart.

Best known for his dramatic parts in "Sa Sandaling Kailangan Mo Ako" and "Tanging Taman," Marvin Agustin takes a sharp turn towards comedy with his character Matty, the naïve roommate everyone takes advantage of.

Ladies man

And after his stint in "Labs Ko Si Babe," Dominic Ochoa takes on the role of ladies man Ernest, whose way with the ladies gets him into way too much trouble.

Ai-Ai delas Alas takes on her second ABS-CBN sitcom after "Arriba Arriba" in "Whattamen," playing the role of Vicky, Ernest's aunt and the trio's strict landlady.

Girl talk gets raised to the highest power with Jessa Zaragoza, Vanessa del Bianco, Michelle Bayle, Desiree del Valle and Andrea del Rosario in "Attagirl," airing every Thursday night at 9 p.m.

Joey Reyes himself takes over the directorial reins of this irreverent half-hour, as men, gossip, shopping, love, the workplace and other "girly" things become the basis of the empowered wit and glamour of "Attagirl's" sizzling quintet of funny women.

IT'S / P. G2

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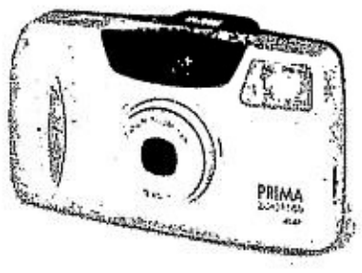

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Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2842 Series of 2001

It's boys vs girls in ABS-CBN's . . . (From page G1)

Diet-obsessed agent

Jessa plays Mandy Arriola, a diet-obsessed real estate agent who has to deal with a lonely lovelife and an impossible boss (Gabe Mercado).

Vanessa plays the sexy but constantly misunderstood Maxie Vargas, a *balikbayan* working in the Philippines as a marketing assistant.

Another *balikbayan*, Michelle Bayle, takes on the role of Gerry, Maxie's scatter-brained cousin.

Young Desiree del Valle leaves the image of the teenage angst of her series "Tabing-Ilog" to play the *promdi* Charlie Barrameda, who has yet to adjust to the fast paced life in Manila.

Finally Andrea del Rosario plays Joey Toribio, an interior designer always on the lookout for love.

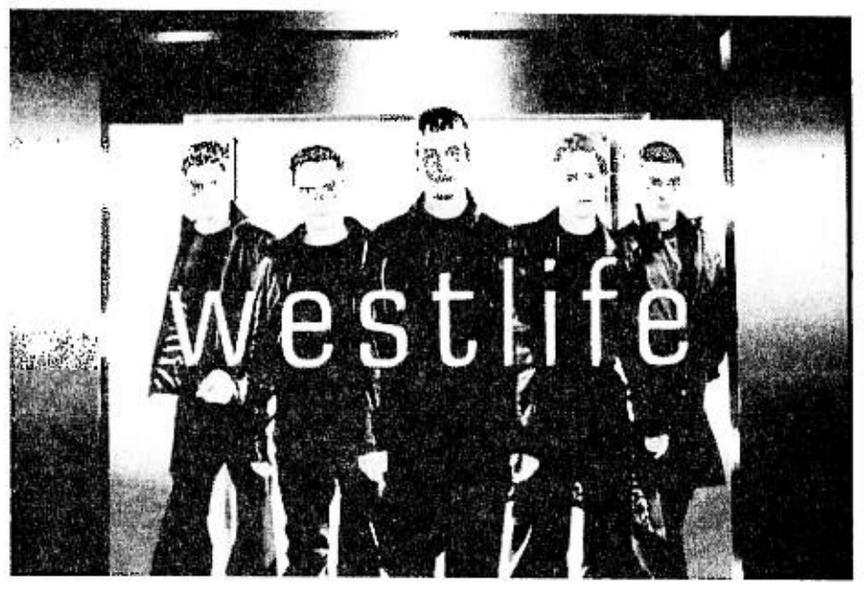
"ATTAGIRL" beauties Desiree del Valle, Vanessa del Bianco, Andrea del Rosario and Michelle Bayle.

Westlife concert aired on HBO Sept. 17

IT all began when Kian Egan, Mark Feehily and Shane Filan performed in a school musical together. With that, they decided to form a band and called themselves 6 as 1, later changing their name to I.O. YOU. The group released a single "Together Girl Forever" in Ireland with limited success, prompting Shane's mother to contact Boyzone's manager Louis Walsh, to persuade him to take a look at the guys. Though Walsh was impressed, he had no time to manage yet another band. Luckily for the guys, Ronan Keating of Boyzone agreed to co-manage a new band and thus I.O. YOU came under the management of the new company, Rolo Management.

Auditions

Retaining three of the original members of I.O. YOU, auditions were held to find two new members for the group. Nicky Bryne and Bryan Mc Fadden were eventually chosen and Westside was formed (Ronan Keating felt the I.O. YOU sounded too boyband-esque). Touring as a supporting act to Backstreet Boys in Dublin and Boyzone in Ireland, Westside stunned everyone by winning the "Best New Tour Act" at the Smash Hits Awards in November 1998. The boys were later obliged to change their name to Westlife early in 1999 when it was discovered that a number of existing bands shared the same name.



THE GROUP'S first seven singles debuted at No. 1.

The band went on to release their first single "Swear It Again" in April 1999 that went straight to the top of the British and Irish charts, becoming the biggest-selling debut single ever in Ireland.

Many singles were released soon after, with each of them reaching the number one spot in the charts. Their seventh single release, "My Love," made chart history as they became the only band in UK chart history to have their first seven singles debut at No. 1.Their latest album, following a triple platinum debut piece "Coast To Coast" also reached triple platinum in Ireland after its first day out in the stores.

Filmed in Dublin

You have heard their songs, now see them in action on Sept. 17 at 10:30 p.m. in HBO's concert special "Westlife Live" Dreams Come True. Filmed live from The Point, Dublin, Ireland, on this year, "Westlife Live: Dreams Come True," is truly a treat for Westlife fans! Other playdates are Sept. 22 at 1:15 a.m. and Sept. 28 at 3:30 p.m.

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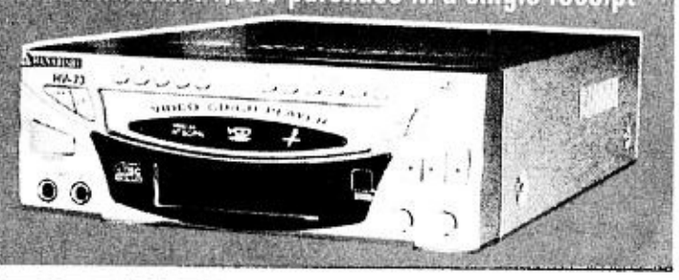

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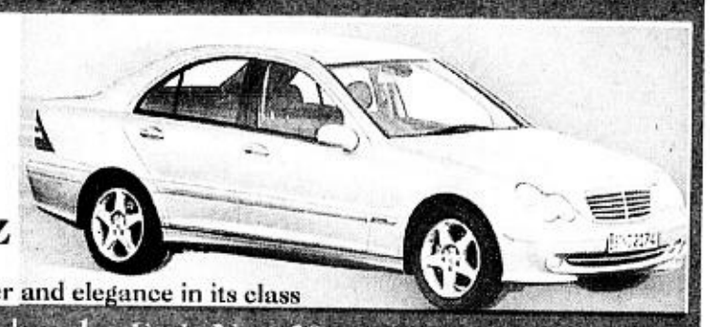

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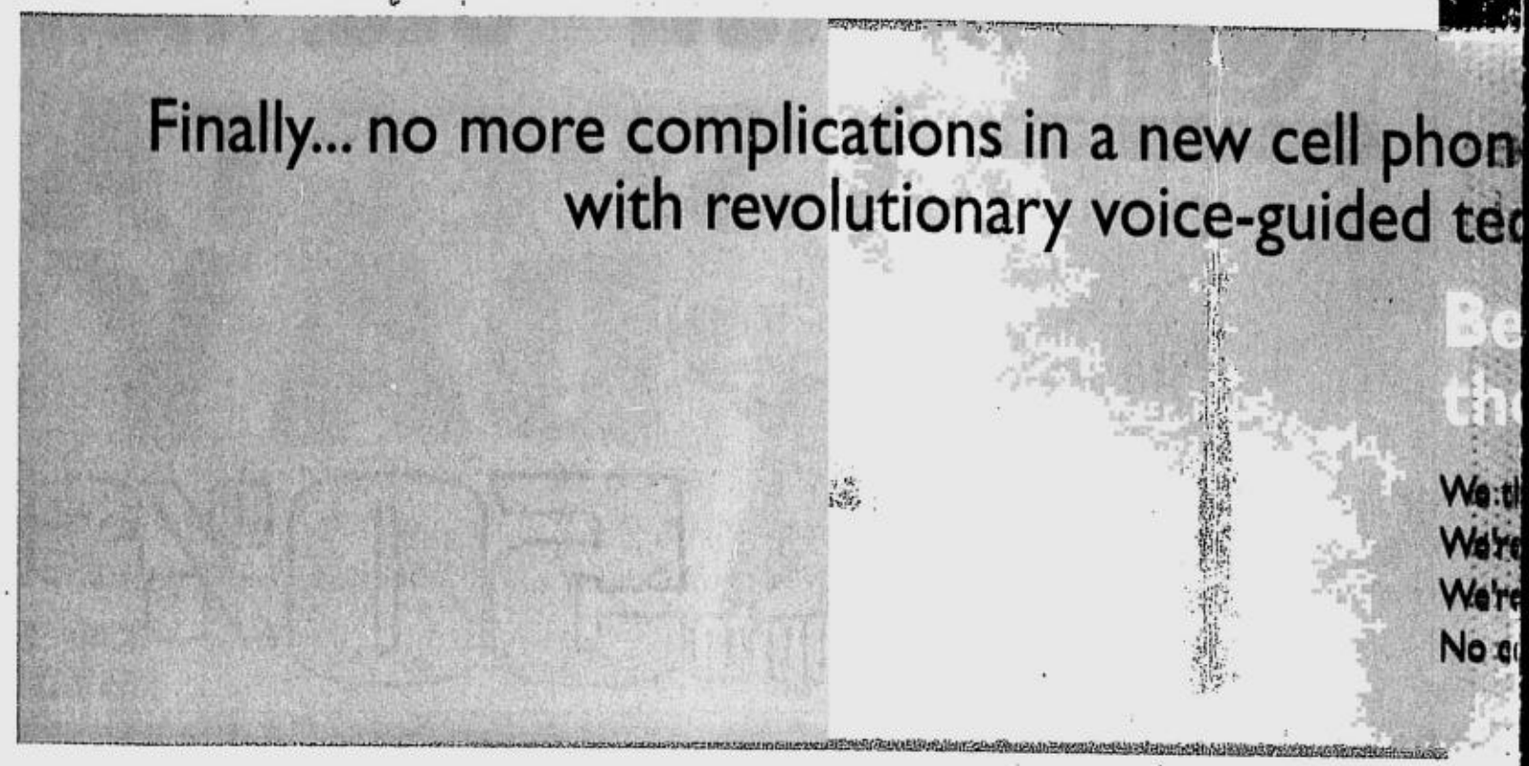

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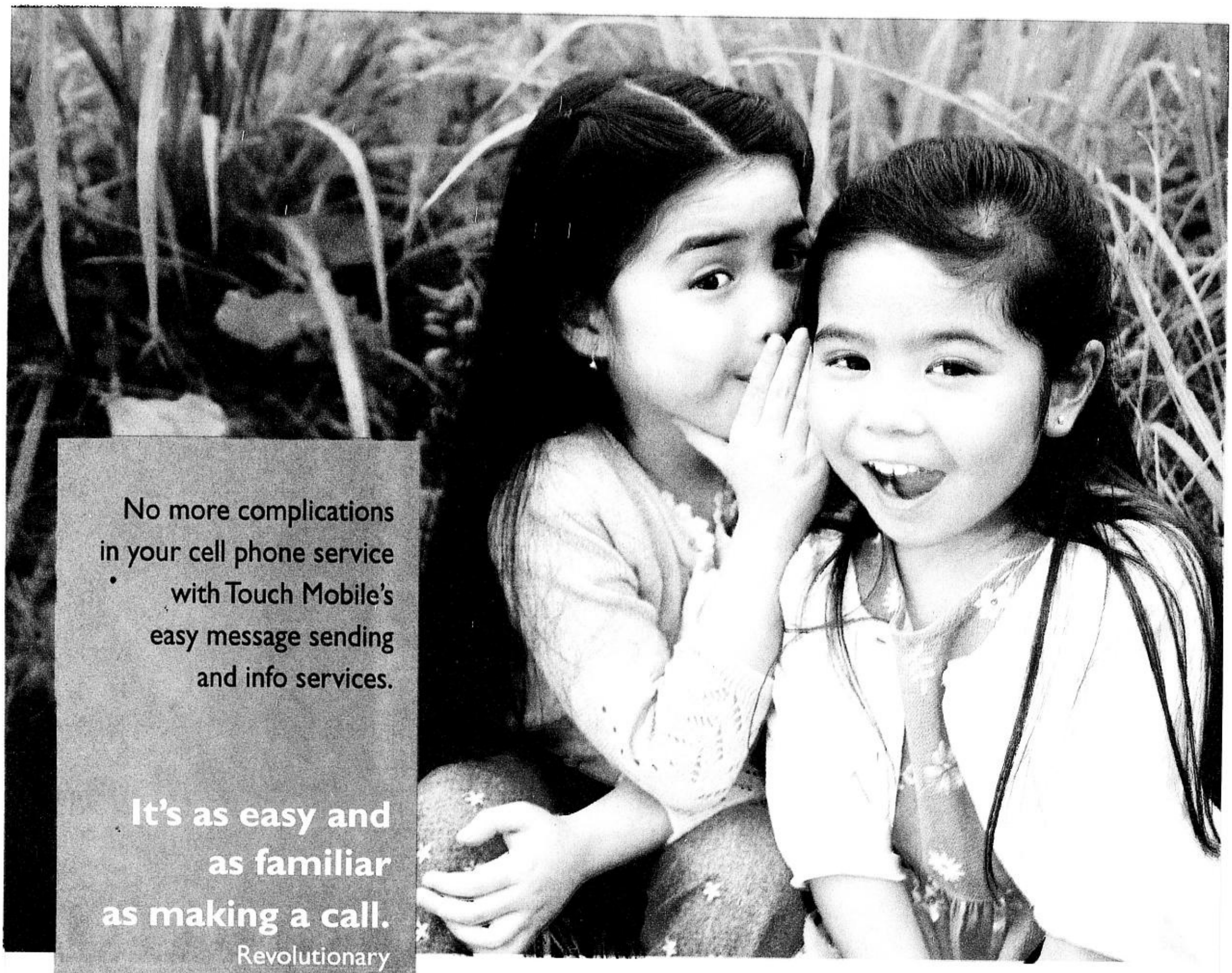

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YOUR WEEKLY TV GUIDE FROM SEPT 15 - SEPT 21

CH	2	4	5	7	9	13	23	29	31
	5:30 Magandang Gabi, Bayan 7:00 Arriba, Arriba 8:00 Mary D' Potter 9:00 Da Pilya en Da Pilot 10:00 Keep on Dancing 11:00 "F" 11:30 Sports Unlimited 12:00 The Weekend News	6:00 Auto Review 6:30 Uncut 7:00 Saturday Primetime Special 9:00 The Bodyguards 10:00 Explore with Mike 11:00 National Network News 11:30 Auto Focus	6:00 Vampires 6:30 Sailormoon Super S 7:00 Tropang Trumpo 8:00 Ispup 9:00 Saturday Night Specials *2001 Classical Brit/Andrea Boccelli: Statue of Liberty* 11:00 Diagnosis Murder	5:30 Brigada Siete 7:00 Idol Ko Si Kap 8:00 Kakabakaba 9:00 GMA's Best 11:00 Master Showman Presents 12:30 GMA Network News 1:00 The 700 Club	6:00 Star Trek 7:00 Invisible Man 8:00 Martial Law 9:00 Saturday Night Playhouse *Matchbox 20* 11:00 PGMA	6:00 Viva Premiere Night 8:00 Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? 9:00 Kagat Ng Dilim 10:00 Now Showing	6:00 Digital Tour 6:30 G2 Living 7:30 Seventh Heaven 8:30 Gilmore Girls 9:30 Studio 23 Presents 12:30 MYX Sampler	3:00 Q Show Case 7:00 Xclusive Cinema Special 9:00 Oras ng Katotohanan 9:30 Armor of God 10:00 Oh Tokyo 11:00 Pinoy Wrestling	6:00 CBS Evening News 6:30 El Coming Attractions 7:00 Extreme Close Up *Jennifer Lopez* 7:30 Uncut *Jennifer Lopez on Selena* 8:00 El True Hollywood Story *The Selena Murder Trial* 10:00 David Letterman 11:00 Uncut 11:30 Extreme Close Up *J Lopez* 12:00 El Coming Attractions
	5:30 Sharon 7:00 Digimon 7:30 Wansapanataym 9:00 Pinoy Exposed 9:30 ABS-CBN Presents 11:30 The Weekend News	3:00 MBA 8:00 Street Legal 9:00 Sunday's Big Showdown 11:00 National Network News 11:30 Business & Leisure	6:00 Zorro 6:30 Guyferd 7:00 Sing-Galing 8:00 Wow Mali! 9:00 Eezy Dancing 10:00 Sunday Night Movies *Stanley and Iris* 12:00 Sentinel	5:30 Partners Mel and Jay 7:00 Biboy's World 7:30 GMA Telesine 9:30 Sunday Night Box Office 11:30 Che-Che Lazaro Presents 12:00 GMA Network News 12:30 Little Night of Music	6:00 Entertainment This Weekend 7:00 Ripley's Believe It or Not 8:00 It's A Miracle 8:30 Kids Say the Darndest Thing 9:00 Sunday's Big Event *Forget Paris* 11:00 Sunday Report 11:30 Ugnayan	4:00 PBA Game 1 *Purefoods vs. Talk 'N Text* 7:30 PBA Game 2 *Ginebra vs. San Miguel* 8:30 Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? 9:30 Sinemaks *Sa Diyos Lang Ako Susuko* 11:30 El Shaddai	6:00 Starship Troopers 6:30 Rugrats 7:00 Batman Beyond 7:30 Futurama 8:00 Belle 8:30 Spin City 9:00 Will & Grace 9:30 Jack & Jill 10:30 Digital Tour 11:00 News Central	5:00 Quartermaster Window Shop 7:00 Sunday Mini-Series 8:00 Oh Tokyo 9:00 Sunday Night Movies 11:00 Bikini Open	6:00 CBS Evening News 6:30 El Coming Attractions 7:00 BTS *Mask of Zorro* 7:30 Uncut *Antonio Banderas* 8:00 Buenos Aires Nightlife 8:30 Festival in Guadalajara 9:00 Mardi Gras In Rio 9:30 Rock in Rio 10:00 Puerto Rico w/ Ricky Martin 10:30 Latino Film Festival
	6:00 TV Patrol 7:00 Pangako sa 'Yo 7:30 Sa Dulo ng Walang Hanggan 8:00 Sa Puso Ko, Iingatan Ka 8:30 Camila 9:00 Home Along Da Riles 10:00 Kabalikat 11:00 Headlines 11:30 Correspondents	5:00 Metro TV 6:00 Value Vision 7:00 Sigaw 8:00 Tele-Dyaryo 10:00 The Working President 11:00 Speed	6:00 F 6:30 Mahha Go Go Go 7:00 The Big Night *The Beast I* 9:00 Life With Roger 9:30 Trabaho Lang 10:00 The Big News 10:30 High Tide 11:30 The Big News (Replay)	6:00 Saksi 6:30 Lupin III 7:00 DragonballZ 7:30 Ikaw Lang Ang Mamahalin 8:00 Monica Brava 8:30 Pinoy Blockbusters 10:15 Kiss Muna 11:00 Front Page 11:30 I-Witness	5:30 Arangkada Xtra Balita 6:00 Sin Ti 6:30 Real TV 7:00 Becker 7:30 Arliss 8:00 World's Most Amazing Videos 9:00 The X-Files 10:00 Newswatch Now 10:30 Entertainment Tonight 11:00 Sex & The City	6:30 Viva Proudly Presents *Doctor, Doctor We Are Sick* 8:30 Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? 9:30 Por Un Beso 10:00 Battle of Yokohama *Primer 1* 11:00 Ronda Trese 11:30 Good Take	6:00 Beat UK 7:00 I Dream of Jeannie 7:30 The Nanny 8:00 Dawson's Creek 9:00 Charmed 10:00 News Central 10:30 Points of View 11:30 Twilight Zone 12:00 P. Rock Prof.	4:30 Quartermaster 6:30 Q Showcase 7:30 Oras ng Katotohanan 8:00 Q Showcase 9:00 Ang Dating Daan 10:00 Q Showcase	6:00 CBS Evening News 5:30 El News Daily 7:00 Live from the Red Carpet! *2001 Primetime Emmy Awards Pre Show (re-broadcast)* 9:00 The Celebrity Adventures Special Live 10:00 Live from the Red Carpet! *2001 Primetime Emmy Awards Post Show (re-broadcast)*
	6:00 TV Patrol 7:00 Pangako sa 'Yo 7:30 Sa Dulo ng Walang Hanggan 8:00 Sa Puso Ko, Iingatan Ka 8:30 Camila 9:00 Oka Tokat 10:00 Pwedeng-Pwede 11:00 Headlines 11:30 Mission X	5:00 Value Vision 6:00 Best of Sydney Olympics 8:00 Tele-Dyaryo 10:00 Pulsong Masa 11:00 Business Insights	6:00 Dragon League 6:30 2 Years Vacation w/ Dinosaurs 7:00 ABC Action Theater *Revelation* 9:00 That '70s Show 9:30 Urban Doktor 10:00 The Big News 10:30 FX The Series 11:30 The Big News (Replay)	6:00 Saksi 6:30 Lupin III 7:00 Dragonball Z 7:30 Ikaw Lang Ang Mamahalin 8:00 Monica Brava 8:30 Kool Ka Lang 9:45 Kasangga 11:00 Front Page 11:30 The Probe Team	5:30 Arangkada Xtra Balita 6:00 Sin Ti 6:30 Real TV 7:00 Ed 8:00 Ally McBeal 9:00 The Practice 10:00 Newswatch Now 10:30 Trinidad vs. Hopkins (Replay) 11:30 Ngayon Na Pinoy	6:30 Viva Action Cinema *Ninja Kids* 8:30 Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? 9:30 Por Un Beso 10:00 Dear Heart 11:00 Ronda Trese 11:30 Good Take	6:00 Later with Jools Holland 7:00 The Three Stooges 7:30 Popular 8:30 The Others 9:30 Mad About You 10:00 News Central 10:30 Oprah 11:30 Zine 12:00 MYX Sampler	4:30 Quartermaster 6:30 Q Showcase 7:30 Oras ng Katotohanan 8:00 Ang Dating Daan (Live)	6:00 CBS Evening News 6:30 El News Daily 7:00 Celebrity Profile *Scott Baio* 8:00 El True Hollywood Story *Good Times* 9:00 Daytime Emmy Awards 9:30 El News Daily 10:00 David Letterman 11:00 Uncut *Aaron Spelling* 11:30 Extreme Close Up *Bob Saget*
	6:00 TV Patrol 7:00 Pangako sa 'Yo 7:30 Sa Dulo ng Walang Hanggan 8:00 Sa Puso Ko, Iingatan Ka 8:30 Camila 9:00 Whattamen 9:30 Your Honor 11:00 Headlines 11:30 Isyu 101	4:00 MBA 8:00 Tele-Dyaryo 10:00 Paco Park Presents 11:00 Diyos At Bayan	6:00 Pygmalio 6:30 Time Quest 7:00 Planet X 7:30 Sabrina The Teenage Witch 8:00 Chicago Sons 8:30 Friends 9:00 E.R. 10:00 The Big News 10:30 Phils.' Most Wanted 11:30 Police Academy	6:00 Saksi 6:30 Lupin III 7:00 DragonBall Z 7:30 Ikaw Lang Ang Mamahalin 8:00 Monica Brava 8:30 Beh Bote Nga 9:45 Larawan 11:00 Front Page 11:30 Imbestigador	5:30 Arangkada Xtra Balita 6:00 Sin Ti 6:30 Real TV 7:00 Level 9 8:00 Roswell 9:00 Buffy the Vampire Slayer 10:00 Newswatch Now 11:10 Wrestling 11:30 Kasangga Mo Ay Langit	5:00 PBA Game 1 *Red Bull vs. Swift* 7:30 PBA Game 2 *Tanduay vs. Sta. Lucia* 9:30 Por Un Beso 10:00 Blow By Blow 11:00 Ronda Trese 11:30 Good Take	7:00 Twilight Zone 7:30 Scariest Places 8:30 West Wing 9:30 Gameplan 10:00 News Central 10:30 Oprah 11:30 The Explorer 12:00 Soundcheck	4:30 Quartermaster 6:30 Q Showcase 7:30 Oras ng Katotohanan 8:00 Q Showcase 9:00 Ang Dating Daan 10:00 Q Showcase	6:00 CBS Evening News 6:30 El News Daily 7:00 In Focus *'Just Shoot Me'* 8:00 Mysteries and Scandals 8:30 FYE *Suddenly, Susan* 9:00 Soap Opera Digest Awards 9:30 El News Daily 10:00 David Letterman 11:30 Wild On *Fortaleza* 12:00 Talk Soup
	6:00 TV Patrol 7:00 Pangako sa 'Yo 7:30 Sa Dulo ng Walang Hanggan 8:00 Sa Puso Ko, Iingatan Ka 8:30 Camila 9:00 Attagirl 9:30 Maalaala Mo Kaya 11:00 Headlines 11:30 Pipol	4:00 Shop @ Home 5:00 Value Vision 6:00 Best Of Sydney Olympics 8:00 Tele-Dyaryo 10:00 Concert At The Park 11:00 Fora Medica	6:00 Shulato 6:30 Fancy Lala 7:00 Guinness World Records 8:00 Soldier of Fortune 9:00 Normal Ohio 9:30 The Exchange 10:00 The Big News 10:30 Strangers 11:00 New York Undercover	6:00 Saksi 6:30 Lupin III 7:00 Dragonball Z 7:30 Ikaw Lang Ang Mamahalin 8:00 Monica Brava 8:30 Daddy Di Do Du 9:35 Sinerama 11:00 Front Page 11:30 Debate with Mare at Pare	5:30 Arangkada Xtra Balita 6:00 Sin Ti 6:30 Real TV 7:00 Clueless 8:00 Felicity 9:00 Once and Again 10:00 Newswatch Now 10:30 The Basketball Show 11:30 Souvenirs of the 20th century	6:30 TeleViva Specials *Tol, Ako Naman* 8:30 Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? 9:30 Por Un Beso 10:00 Gags Must Be Crazy 11:00 Ronda Trese 11:30 Good Take	5:00 UAAP Season 64 7:00 The Green Hornet 7:30 Cineplex 23 9:30 Guide to Urban Living 10:00 News Central 10:30 Oprah 11:30 Travel Time 12:00 MYX Sampler	4:30 Quartermaster 6:30 Q Showcase 7:30 Oras ng Katotohanan 8:00 Q Showcase 9:00 Ang Dating Daan 10:00 Q Showcase	6:00 CBS Evening News 6:30 El News Daily 7:00 Celebrity Profile 8:00 El True Hollywood Story *Eight Is Enough* 9:00 International Emmy Awards NYC 9:30 El News Daily 10:00 David Letterman 10:30 Uncut *Brooke Shields* 11:30 Extreme Close Up
	6:00 TV Patrol 7:00 Pangako sa 'Yo 7:30 Sa Dulo ng Walang Hanggan 8:00 Sa Puso Ko, Iingatan Ka 8:30 Camila 9:00 Star Cinema Presents 11:00 Headlines 11:30 True Crime 12:30 Martin Late@Nite	4:00 MBA 8:00 Tele-Dyaryo 10:00 Patrol 117 11:00 Unlimited Diving	6:00 Lazenca 6:30 Restol 7:00 By Request *Usher* 8:00 Touched By an Angel 9:00 Working 9:30 On-Air 10:00 The Big News 10:30 Friday Box Office *Desperate Hour*	6:00 Saksi 6:30 Lupin III 7:00 DragonBall Z 7:30 Ikaw Lang Ang Mamahalin 8:00 Monica Brava 8:30 Pokemon 9:00 Bubble Gang 10:15 GMA Love Stories 11:00 Front Page	5:30 Arangkada Xtra Balita 6:00 Sin Ti 6:30 Real TV 7:00 That's Life 8:00 Dharma & Greg 8:30 Nikki 9:00 City of Angels 10:00 Newswatch Now 10:30 TV Greats on Friday *Freestyle All Hits Part II*	5:00 PBA Game 1 *Talk 'N Text vs. Alaska* 7:30 PBA Game 2 *Purefoods vs. Ginebra* 9:30 Por Un Beso 10:00 Battle of Yokohama *Primer 2* 11:00 Ronda Trese 11:30 Last Fool Show	6:00 Halo-Halo 7:00 Batman 7:30 Baywatch 8:30 Mortal Combat 9:30 Hidden Camera 10:00 News Central 10:30 Oprah 11:30 Nightman 12:30 MYX Sampler	4:30 Quartermaster 6:30 Q Showcase 7:30 Oras ng Katotohanan 8:00 Ang Dating Daan (Live)	6:00 CBS Evening News 6:30 El News Daily 7:00 In Focus *Dawson's Creek* 8:00 Extreme Close-Up 8:30 In Focus *The Women of 'Sex In the City'* 9:30 El News Daily 10:00 David Letterman 10:30 Wild On *Carnaval*

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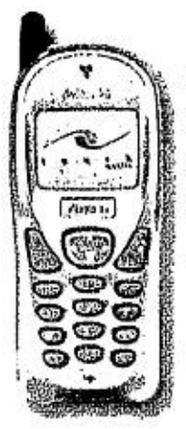

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Food-tripping in Vancouver

WORD OF MOUTH

Sandy Daza

VANCOUVER, CANADA—The very first time I set foot on Canada, I was impressed with the friendliness of the people. The place reminded me so much of the US but a bit laid back. Then, while playing a back-breaking game of squash, I noticed that my stamina was unusually strong. It was the air I was breathing—clean and pure oxygen.

Ski resort

We traveled to Whistler, one of the most popular snow ski resorts in the world. Our 22-minute ski-lift ride gave me a nice view of the most breathtaking sceneries in the world. If you love nature, Canada is it. Finally, I tried the food. Knowing that in 1996, many Chinese from Hong Kong migrated to Canada, I anticipated my first Chinese meal. It was superb yet inexpensive. I have fallen in love with this place.

Just the other day, my wife and I, together with my kids took a 30-minute ride to Seattle, Washington. There, we went to discount stores and outlets where shopping is a simple joy and prices are lower than the stores in Vancouver. It is that close. Everything there is PX. (joke *yon*.)

The Chinese meal was superb yet inexpensive. I have fallen in love with this place

Convenience stores

Most of the convenience stores and fast foods found in the United States can be found here and in the Philippines. I noticed something though. The quality of the food is not the same. For example, The McDonald's fish filet back home tastes so much better. Kentucky Fried Chicken in the US tastes better here.

We also visited the Dairy Queen here. I had a Blizzard with Score chocolate candy. It was unbelievably delicious. Unfortunately, far from the taste of our Blizzard in Manila. I wonder what ingredients make the difference. Their Dilly bar was also terrific. It's the type that someone can't stop at one bite.

Safeway is also here. I am always a failure in going to these places. I end up buying much more then planned. In places such as these, you become alert to items on sale such as lamb, beef, salmon cream cheese etc.

Chinese food

Chinese food here is so delicious. Like Paeng of North Park says, "*Pasok ka sa maski anong* Chinese restaurant, *Masarap*!" It is also so inexpensive. A platter that cost Canadian $4.50 fed me my wife and three of our kids (*hindi kami nagtitipid no'n*). Four huge containers of *ulam* for 15 people costs about P1,000. Dishes like honey pork, beef with broccoli, salmon bake, ginger chicken, soy chicken, crispy fried garlic pork ribs, steamed spare ribs and many more. You should try the salted fish, fried rice and the dried scallop with egg white fried rice. Yummy! It is a paradise for Hong Kong food.

Down side, *walang* Jollibee, Andok's or Barrio Fiesta. Plus, you have to do your own laundry.

Happy eating!

Grand opening sa Sabado.

Mapapanood sa lahat ng major channels mula 6:30 p.m.

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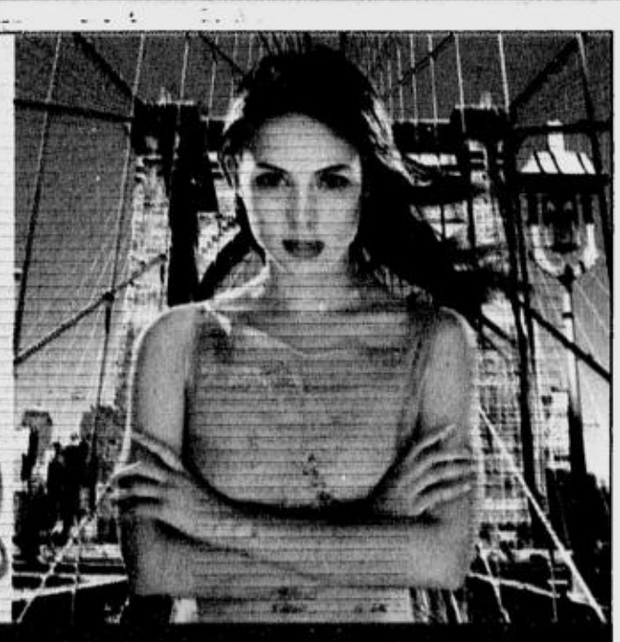

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Scold me, spank me

Ah, how I wish I were a little girl again. I think I'd like to be scolded again by my dad

FACE TO FACE

Inday Badiday

I DON'T know what got into me, but, as I started thinking what to write about, memories of my dad flooded my mind. Perhaps, it was because of that huge catastrophe that happened in New York and Washington DC.

Good times

These cities—especially Washington always remind me of the good times I had with my dad because he was once chief of the Philippine mission.

It's quite weird, but as I think about my dad, what I remember are the occasions when he got mad at me for being such a bad girl. Well, truth to tell, my dad seldom got mad—but I was often a bad girl.

The first time dad gave me a good spanking was when I almost burned our house down. We lived in a cottage in Camp Aguinaldo. We were called army brats and I was the commander of a platoon of girls who were usually bored and naughty, a dangerous combination.

We were playing at the house once and I had this bright idea to build a little bonfire. We squealed in unrestrained delight as we watched the tongues of flames licking the early evening air. As the fire got bigger and bigger, our whoops of joy turned into screams of dismay. Soon, the flames were eating our lawn and inched closer to our house. Thanks to the kindness of neighbors, water in pails and buckets of all shapes, colors and sizes literally clobbered the fire to ashes.

Adult games

I got a severe whacking from my dad for that incident and I deserved it. After that, I never played childish games again—but I graduated to adult games, which were worse.

Like, I went with my classmates to the town fiesta of Bacoor, Cavite without getting permission from my dad. Little did I know, of course, that he had visitors at the time and he wanted me to display my ballet form which was more his pride and joy than mine.

He was greatly alarmed when I couldn't be found and nobody knew where I was. As the chief of the National Intelligence Coordinating Agency (NICA), the modern equivalent of the Intelligence Services of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (ISAFP), he ate death threats for dinner long before Lady Miriam had them for breakfast.

Yes, my dad was on the hit list of every rebel, insurgent and terrorist—particularly the Hukbalahap at the time. I can now imagine all the grim scenarios that played out in his mind when he discovered that I was missing.

Meanwhile, I was having a great time flirting with my boy friends and giggling with my girl friends. Suddenly, we were all jolted out of our happiness when two cars and three army jeeps filled with soldiers parked in front of the house where we were having such great fun. It was my dad. I didn't know which was greater—my mortification at being caught and fetched by my dad or my horror at whatever form his anger could take.

Dad's fury

I felt the numbing coldness of my dad's fury in his glacial remark: "Explain to your mother"—which, of course, meant that I didn't need to explain to him because no amount of explanation on my part would placate him. For me, what happened was fun. For him, it was an unforgivable security breach.

Needless to say, there was frozen silence in the car where I chewed on my fingernails as our convoy of five vehicles snaked its way back from Bacoor to Pasig where we lived. I was grounded for a month, which meant my world was reduced to just home and school. But, of course, I had ingenious ways of getting around that.

I've mastered the silence of playing hookey. I'd go to school with my heavy schoolbag. How was my dad to know that inside I didn't have books but a blousy shirt and a trendy pair of jeans which I wriggled into as soon as the car, which brought me to school, was out of sight. Of course, I also wriggled back into my school uniform minutes before the same car came back to bring me back home.

Malling

In between the wriggling, I window-shopped, watched movies and ate out with friends. Yes, I was already malling long before there were malls. There were also times when I'd go to radio stations and TV studios, but that's another story.

There were times when my dad caught me sneaking back to our house in the wee hours of the morning. He tested different approaches with me. He tried reasoning out with me, patiently explaining the evils of juvenile delinquency, carefully inquiring what was wrong with my life and how he could help to set things right. At other times, he lashed out at me, castigating me with very well chosen words designed to force-mold me into the good girl I should become. He also tried bribery, which I liked very much, but like all the other approaches, it was utterly ineffective. I still returned to merry, bad-girl me after a short reprieve.

There are times that I miss him terribly. I miss him most for the scolding and the spanking.

Family reunions

Like, my dad would certainly frown at my consistent refusal these days not to attend family reunions. For our clan, these happenings are such a big deal. But I don't really think I should be faulted for refusing to go to reunions especially now that all of us have more and more wrinkles to show than the last time we saw each other.

He would also never ever understand why I chose to keep my problems to myself, retreating to the sanctuary of silence whenever life's blows hit me. For one, I really don't want to be such a bother to anyone. For another, if people really wanted to show they cared, they'd know how. Also, I believe I'm good at giving but very bad at taking—although I know how sweet that feels.

Spirituality

My dad, I think, would also not look too kindly on the state of my spirituality right now. He and my mom were such devout Catholics, always at the forefront of all the rituals and traditions, some of which live on to this day. But then, I've always been the searching, questioning, rebelling type. And the heavens have been tremendously patient with me. So would my dad, I'm sure.

One other thing I'm not very sure of, my dad might also scold me for the way I've brought up my children. I think, he'd say, I've spoiled them. But then, I've given my best. I've labored and toiled long and hard for them. It's up to them now, and to God, to carve out their own destiny.

Ah, how I wish I were a little girl again. I think, I'd like to be scolded again by my dad. And, God knows, there are times I need a good spanking...

LAPID. The fight continues.

Lito Lapid has not given up on local movies

DESPITE the depressed state of the local movie industry, action star and Pampanga Governor Lito Lapid has not given up the fight and continually strives to win over the moviegoing public.

"Dapat lang na ituloy-tuloy pa rin ang laban," says Lito Lapid. *"Hindi porke hirap ang marami sa industriya sa ngayon ay dapat na tayong umatras sa laban. Hindi tayo yung tipong basta na lang susuko. Obligasyon nating suklian yun ng pagmamahal din. Walang atrasan. Walang iwanan. Tuloy ang laban!"*

No doubles

His latest picture is Regal Entertainment's "Bukas Babaha ng Dugo," where Lito displays his latest stunts without the help of doubles. The film is directed by Lito's long-time-friend Baldo Marro with whom the actor has collaborated in previous movies.

In his latest project, Lito plays a retired military man who is tricked by a fellow officer into joining a supposedly legitimate mission only to find out later on that the mission is actually a bank heist.

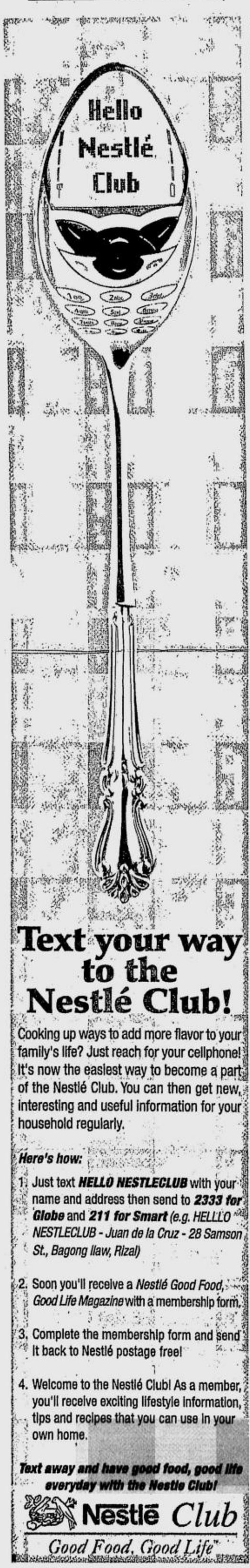
"Kumpara sa mga dati ko nang nagawang hard action movies, *may malaking pagkakaiba itong pinakabago nating pelikula,"* relates Lito Lapid. *"Mapuso ito. Mas may drama ito. Tungkol sa isang retiradong sundalong nagnais na mamuhay bilang isang tahimik na mamamayan kasama ang kanyang pamilya. Pero dahil sa pagtanaw ng malaking utang na loob sa kanyang nakatataas na* officer *sa* military, *nasangkot tuloy siya sa isang* bank robbery *na pakana naman ng kanyang mga dating kasama. Dahil dun, nagkaprublema tuloy siya sa kanyang pamilya. Obligado siyang linisin ang kanyang pangalan at ihanap ng katarungan ang nangyari sa kanyang asawa't anak."*

Death-defying stunts

"Bukas Babaha ng Dugo" is full of action scenes with Lito's indisputable trademark death-defying stunts executed with the help of director Baldo Marro.

"Ganun na kami ever since," says *Direk* Baldo. *"Basta't may pelikula kaming gagawin, umpisang-umpisa pa lang, pinaplano na naming mabuti ang mga gimik naming dalawa. Ang mga malalaking* action scenes, *pati na mga mailiit na detalye sa* fight routines. *Metikuloso si* Gov. *Gusto niya, plantsado nang lahat, yan bago pa dumating ang araw ng shooting. Kaya pagdating namin sa* set, *wala nang abala-abala pa. Take na kaagad kami!"*

"Bukas Babaha ng Dugo" stars Lito Lapid, Via Veloso, Emilio Garcia and Sharia Tolentino.



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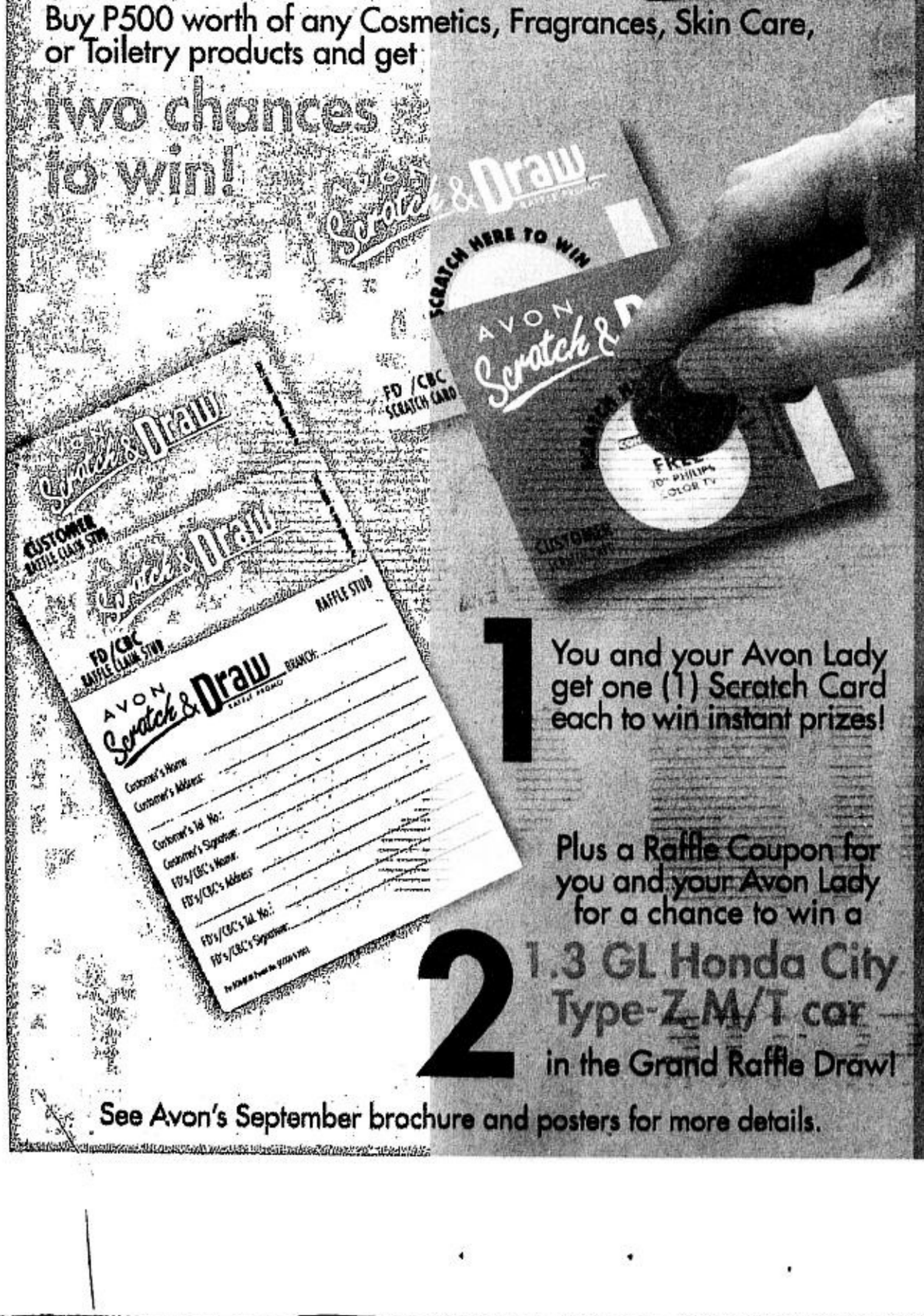

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See Avon's September brochure and posters for more details.

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- Free Forest Interlude Classic Talc 100g
- Discount off your next purchase of designated Avon products

How to claim instant prizes

- To claim your instant prize, simply present your winning Scratch Card to your Avon outlet. You may also ask your Avon Lady to claim your prize for you, by filling out the authorization portion at the back of the Customer Scratch Card.
- Winners of VCD Players and Television Sets must claim their prize in person at their Avon branches. Please bring the winning Scratch Card and an identification card bearing your name and signature.
- Instant Prizes not claimed by October 31, 2001 in Bacolod, Iloilo, Roxas, Dumaguete, San Carlos, Antique and Kalibo outlets, and November 30, 2001 for all other outlets nationwide will be forfeited.
- To claim Discounts, simply surrender your Scratch Card to your Avon Lady on your next purchase of designated Avon products. Purchases must be made on or before September 30, 2001 in Bacolod, Iloilo, Roxas, Dumaguete, San Carlos, Antique and Kalibo outlets and October 31, 2001 in all other branches nationwide.
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- Avon reserves the right to substitute designated Free Avon Products for other Avon Products of equal or higher value. Avon also reserves the right to substitute designated products subject to the Discounts for other products of equal or higher value.

How to join the raffle

- To join the raffle, simply fill out the Customer portion of the Raffle Coupon. Ask your FD/CBC to fill out the FD/CBC portion. Detach and drop the raffle coupon in Scratch and Draw dropboxes in any Avon Branch nearest you. You may also ask your Avon Lady to drop the raffle coupon for you.
- Incomplete and hard-to-read entries will be disqualified. Both the Customer and FD/CBC must keep their claim stubs which they must present to claim the raffle prize.

Watch out for the Grand Raffle Draw!

- All raffle entries qualify for the Grand Draw on October 26, 2001 at the Honda Cars-Magallanes Showroom.
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- Avon will entertain claims and will award prizes only to the person whose name appears on the winning raffle coupon. Likewise, Avon will assign and release all car registration documents only in the name of the winners.
- Winners will be notified by telegram or registered mail on the date and adress in claiming their prizes.
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- Operators of Avon Service Centers, their employees, security and manpower agencies and their relatives up to the second degree of consanguinity and affinity are disqualified from joining the promotion.
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- Avon reserves the right to disqualify any card or winners for violation of Promo Rules.
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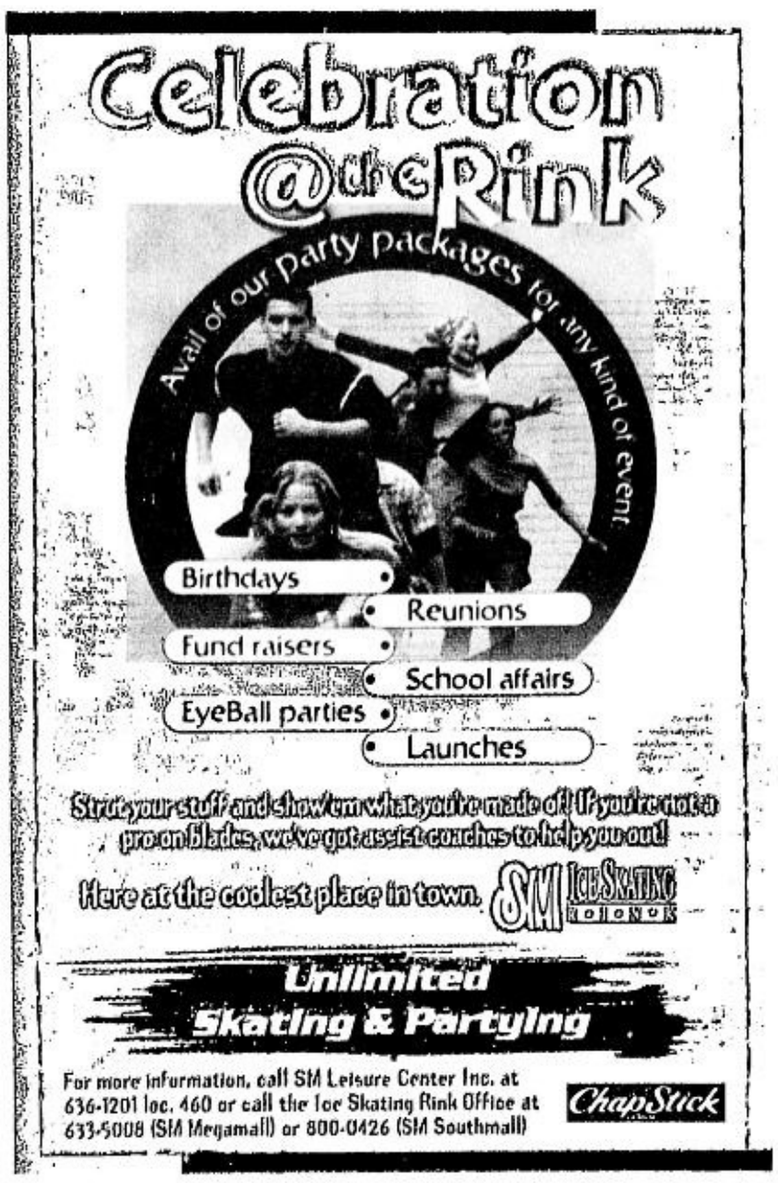

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VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

STAR Cinema's new film, "Trip" has been made livelier as a musical road caper by the inclusion of numerous songs in its soundtrack, which has been released as a separate entertainment package by Star Records.

Featuring musical artists who are only in their teens and 20s, the "Trip" soundtrack leads off with its carrier single, "Trip Mo Ba," written by Toto Sorioso and performed by The Freshmen.

The group is an unusual boy band because, aside from singing, its members also play musical instruments—and write their own songs. The Freshmen are Roel Aldana, Walton Zerrudo, Edward dela Cruz, Daziel Ledda, Jerome Raymundo and Jason Caimol.

The second track, "Pangarap," features the acoustic sound of Barbie's Cradle. Chocolate Beef contributes the pop stomp, "Barkada," the alternative rock group's celebration of male bonding.

Rapper Gloc 9 contributes two self-written and semi-autobiographical tracks, "Isang Araw" and "Ayoko Na." Another rapper, Oblaxz, adds "Trip Mo, Trip Ko," which is energized by his positive outlook.

Mike Luis sings "Girl," his distaff remake of Timmy Cruz ballad, "Boy." He collaborates with Uflow and Mari on "Buhat Nang." And Gladys and the Boxers with K perform the naughty, uptempo "Napapa-Uhhh."

Other tracks are by Quarter to Five ("Kung Wala Ka"), Jimmy Bondoc ("Tuwing Umuulan"), and Session Road ("Talunan na Puso").

Feedback

From Gerardo B. Reynaldo of San Miguel, Manila: "One of the most noticeable advances in cinema technology over the last 20 years has been in the field of theater sound systems. Sound technology now matches the explosions and action onscreen.

"In crime scenes, we can distinctly hear the flick of a switchblade, and sometimes, the gush of blood. 'Saving Private Ryan' wowed us with the pingl of spent magazines being ejected and the different sounds of every caliber of weaponry fired were reproduced with astounding accuracy (previously, explosions and guns firing sounded alike).

"In 'Spawn' and 'The Mask of Zorro,' we heard the swish of the heroes' capes as they leaped. Thanks to Dolby Sound, Digital Theatrical Technology Systems (DTTS), Sony Dynamic Digital Sound (SDDS) and the Tomlinson-Holman Experiment (THX), sound in movies has paralleled the dynamism of the screen image.

BARBIE'S CRADLE. Sings in the "Trip" soundtrack.

"However, there appears to be no quality control in the playback of sound in many of the local theaters, even in the high-end malls. For instance, one chain of cineplexes in Metro Manila cranks up the sound of their speakers so high that it is more distortion than sound. I appeal to movie-theater owners to tone down their volume to more tolerable levels.

"Another cineplex plays the dialogue so softly, you can't make out the words; then, during action scenes, it increases the volume.

"But my chief complaint is that al these technological advances have their obvious defects: often, you can't understand what the actors are saying. The words sound tangled, more so when some English-speaking actors use affected accents.

"Somehow, the old-fashioned technology emphasized the speaking voice and even the background music was considered extraneous, thus having no need of being improved on." *(To be concluded)*

Star Movies

The Star Movies channel offers some interesting movies this month: Sept. 15, 9 p.m., "The Hand that Rocks the Cradle." Sept. 16, 9 p.m., "The Distinguished Gentleman" with Eddie Murphy. Sept. 17, 9 p.m., "L.A. Story." Sept. 18, 9 p.m., "What's Love Got to Do With It" with Angela Bassett.

Sept. 20, 9 p.m., "The Green Mile." Sept. 23, 9 p.m., "The Insider" with Al Pacino and Russell Crowe. Sept. 24, 9 p.m., 'Home Alone." Sept. 25, 9 p.m., "When A Man Loves A Woman" with Andy Garcia and Meg Ryan. Sept. 30, 9 p.m., "The World Is Not Enough" with Pierce Brosnan.

RAYMUNDO. Never lose hope.

Lance Raymundo's star continues to shine

LANCE Raymundo never imagined that one day he'd be doing the same thing his older brother, singer Rannie Raymundo does. He originally planned a career in Medicine and in fact graduated as a B.S. Biology Major in UP Manila. But being part of a show biz family (His mom, Nina Zaldua is a former movie star and beauty queen. His dad, Nilo, was a movie and TV commercial producer), it is undeniable that artistry really flows in the veins of the Raymundo boys.

Good looks

Blessed with chiseled good looks and a well-toned body, Lance's first exposure to the spotlight was through modeling. Lance was among the elite line up of models of Levi's Strauss Philippines from the mid-'90s till 2000. But at that point, he thought that that was about it with regards to being in front of a large audience. He was very busy with school and sports. He was an avid soccer player, a cyclist and even ventured into amateur boxing.

There was really no place for music in his life then.

Birthday gift

It was on his 19th birthday that things changed.

His parents gave him keyboards for his birthday. He never tinkered with a keyboard or any musical instrument before, but to his amusement, as soon as he plugged the machine and played with the keys, music started flowing from him as if he'd always known how to play the instrument.

He was so excited about his newly discovered talent that he spent two straight days just playing and recording his own songs. He emerged from his room with two tapes worth of new music. He brought his tapes to Viva and just like in a fairy tale, the record company signed him up. He now has a self-titled album to his name.

Acoustic piece

One of the songs in the album is "Hope for the Lonely Nights," a moving and heartfelt acoustic piece which showcases Lance's soothing and calming vocals as well as his ability to touch the hearts of his listeners and connect with them through his music. It is an inspired piece of work that speaks of courage, hope and inner peace.

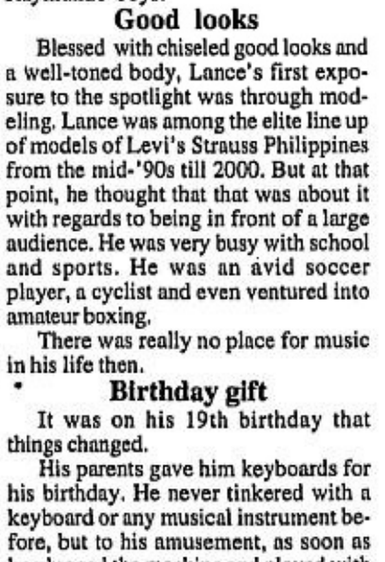
After having completed a collection of sexy dance music (some of which are now a part of his debut album under Viva Records), Lance spent a quiet weekend in a resort to get away from the city for a little reflection and relaxation. The contrast between the fast and furious city life and the peaceful surroundings of the resort reminded him about how life could be so wonderful for some people and how it could be so full of misery for others.

Lance also figured that no matter how good life is at a certain moment, one is never sure whether things may always be that way, for life is like a wheel and there will always be good as well as bad days.

Touching song

All these little thoughts inspired Lance to come up with one of his most touching and personal songs to date. It tells the listeners that no matter how difficult life may be at the moment, one should never lose hope, because, after all... there's "Hope for the Lonely Nights."

From school sporting jock to medical student to fashion model to one of Viva's rising recording stars, Lance Raymundo continues to evolve as an artist and as a person and his star continues to shine so brightly over him. There's no telling what this guy will be up to next. As always, it will surely be something to look forward to.



BAR TOUR

Dingdong Avanzado returns to the concert scene with a bar tour that starts today at Nth Degree and continues on Sept. 18 at Hard Rock Cafe.

SaturdaySPECIAL

FOCUS ON ASIAN FILMS

100 years of Thai movies

BY NESTOR U. TORRE

THAILAND'S cinema traces its origins to 1900, when members of the country's royal family began making documentaries. Feature-film production began in 1927 with "Double Luck."

Shortage of film stock

A shortage of film stock during World War Two halted the Thai film industry's progress, as did artistic repression under a series of governments headed by the military.

In the '70s, however, Thailand imposed import tariffs on foreign movies showing in the country. As a result, there was a boom in the production of local films. Foreign productions like "The Killing Fields" also found filming in Thailand economically attractive.

But Thai filmmakers continue to be limited by small production budgets, which make their movies look small and phlegmatic when compared to Hollywood blockbusters.

That's why Queen Sirikit's support for the relatively big-budgeted and epic "Suriyothai" has encouraged other Thai producers to invest more in their productions, particularly when the film became a huge hit in Thailand, beating James Cameron's "Titanic" and earning a record gross of 200 million baht in domestic sales alone.

Even better, the film has gotten encouraging feedback from distributors in other countries, including the United States, so it could earn even more money in international release.

Production values

Thai filmmakers hope that this infusion of receipts from other countries will encourage producers to increase their movies' budgets, so that they can have better production values that will draw more people to watch Thai films, both in Thailand and internationally.

Queen Sirikit decided to support the film in order to teach young students about the country's history in a dynamic way. She guided the project through seven years of research and production. 100/P. I2

"SURIYOTHAI." Beat "Titanic" in the domestic market.

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TWO FOR THE SHOW

Rosebud makes for interesting TV viewing

BY MARY ANN A. BAUTISTA AND RICKY T. GALLARDO

WE'VE been watching a lot of TV these days, trying to see if there's something new and of value to waste our time on. Well, it's not really that bad after all.

We think that the most engaging programs are the ones which feature the most fascinating subjects. And lately, we've seen a lot of Mary "Rosebud" Ong in all her cheongsan glory hopping from one show to the next, always letting out a mouthful in her signature calm and relaxed manner. She's visited "Debate," "Isyu 101," "Point Blank," "Pipol," the ANC program of Gene Orejana, "Kris & Tell"and she has shown remarkable courage despite the dangers she faces. We feel that Ong is very knowledgeable about the things she's been saying about herself and her enemies.

We'd also like to commend "Private Conversations" with Boy Abunda for his interview with Gina Lopez of the ABS-CBN Foundation. We found the conversations really enlightening and Ms Lopez's answers very sincere and spontaneous. There is an unabashed sense of truth to this charming lady and she simply exudes a lot of positive energies that can be truly infectious.

ROSEBUD. Calm and relaxed manner.

VALDES. Feast for the senses.

Also, Abunda handled the interview very well. He was straight to the point, allowing his subject to shine.

"I-Witness," by way of correspondent Vicky Morales, also did a very good presentation about the subject of growing old and we were really engrossed to see the other side of Johnny Litton which we hardly know about.

The stylish program 'F' also scored high points with its segment about Christian Vasquez, the newest toast of the advertising and modelling world who hit the big-time via his 'Suportahan Ta Ka' PLDT TV ad. Cher Calvin handled her subject very well, maintaining the rightful distance to a subject who could effortlessly overwhelm her with his charm.

Onemig Bondoc loves to race

Onemig keeps several stacks of Formula One books and miniature replicas of Ferraris in the living room of his bachelor's pad in Greenhills. He admits that he collects DVDs, VCDs, toy statues of Superheroes, race car caps and race cars. He enjoys being independent but sometimes he visits his family in Valle Verde when he gets lonely.

His obsession with car racing is evident when you enter his bedroom where he displays 30 miniature race cars. What does he love about racing?

"I experience a different adrenaline rush when I'm racing. It's a different adventure for me. I'm into all kinds of sports. I like rock-climbing and riding the motorcycle," Onemig reveals.

Celebrities support future dressmakers

Celebrities will participate in the fashion show of the clothing technology students of the University of the Philippines slated in the next few weeks.

A total of 38 students, who will not only design but cut and sew and do everything hands-on until their assigned celebrities wear their creations, are hoping to raise funds for the restoration of the Costume Museum of the UP College of Home Economics.

For some years now, most of the rare historic pieces of Filipino costumes and accessories, including the now priceless Ramon Valera collection, have been kept in the dark rooms of the museum and are in danger of spoilage and decomposition.

The following personalities have agreed to appear as models for the show to be directed by fashion maverick Robbie Carmona: KC Montero, China Cojuangco, Wilma Doesnt, Bianca Araneta, Rafael Rosel and Toffee Calma.

As KC aptly puts it, "These are the kind of people we should support, they may be just students now, but one day, they'll be dressing up the show biz world."

RX 93.1 coming of age

If RX 93.1 were a young lady, then her coming out party would've been the most talked about debut of the year. The Barreiro family -owned radio station celebrated its 18th birthday in style recently at the Limits Disco in Ortigas with unlimited food, drinks and music.

We were part of the crowd that was thrilled by the continuous influx of performers that came up and down the stage to entertain the station's well-wishers. Martin Nievera, South Border, the Freestyle, First Circle and Maxine (who is now a certified RX jock) lent their time and talent to make the affair truly memorable.

Most happy was Chinggay Barreiro, head of the RX accounts team and wife to big boss Chito, when she sang with Nievera. As a way of saying thank you to their advertisers and the media, the RX team raffled off big, big prizes.

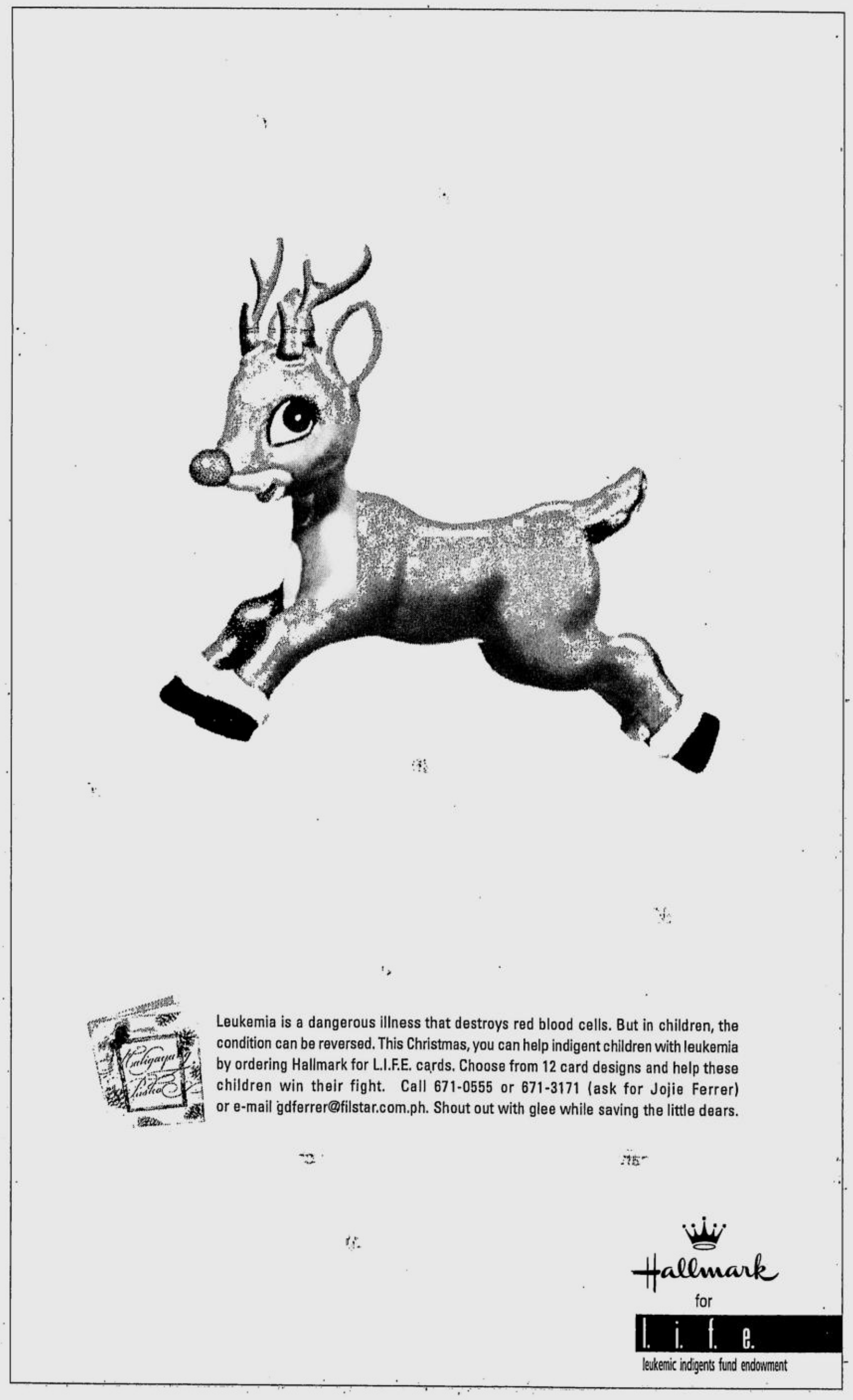
Golden girl Mitch Valdes

Still highly-charged from the issue on the proposed 20 percent withholding tax that is hounding her flock at the OPM, here comes Mitch Valdes preparing for what is perhaps the greatest performance of her illustrious career.

Billed as "Mitch Valdes, Golden Girl (...diva...h?)," the show is a fitting tribute to a lady on the verge of turning 50 whose talent is far more precious than gold. The people behind Maximedia should be commended for being fast in getting Valdes on this momentous year of her colorful life.

Valdes promises three evenings of delirious delight on October 13, 20 and 27 that will showcase both her comic dexterity and resplendent musicality. With Lorrie Illustre serving as her musical director, Valdes is sure to dish out a feast for the senses.

Call Maximedia at 8138999 for your early reservations and be part of the celebration of Mitch's golden year.



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Hallmark for l. i. f. e. leukemic indigents fund endowment

Rica Peralejo is a vampire in Viva's 'Banyo Queen'

RAPPER-COMEDIAN Andrew E. and sweet-turned-sexy star Rica Peralejo play romantic partners for the first time in Viva Films' "Banyo Queen."

Different partners

The two first worked together in "Where the Girls Are" but had different partners. This time, the two play opposite each other—Andrew as Drew, maintenance man of a small hotel in Malate, and Rica as Angelie, a vampire who needs to find a virgin male before her 18th birthday, or she will die. Meanwhile, Drew, who discovers he has brain tumor, is also struggling to stay alive.

Angelie has an aunt, Chada (Mystica) who has made it a personal mission to help her niece find a virgin male before she turns 18. While Chada is busy finding out if the man they are going to victimize is a virgin or not, Angelie goes into the bathroom and scribbles a poem, "Banyo Queen," on the walls.

Vampire hunters

One day, Drew goes in to clean the bathroom, finds the poem and answers it with his own, called "Banyo King." When they run into a group of vampire hunters, Drew and Angelie are able to escape to Angelie's house where they find everyone asleep. Drew prepares to fight the vampire hunters.

Just when Drew is about to be defeated, the vampires wake up and help him fight the gang. Drew lets Angelie drink his blood and to make him a vampire, Angelie makes him drink hers. In the end, the two of them get married and live "happily ever after."

Andrew says that working with Rica this time around was a different experience. "*Noon makulit siya, siguro dahil bata pa*," says Andrew. "But this time, it's a totally different Rica. She's very serious about her work, and very sincere. *At hindi na naglalaro sa set*!"

Rica says that she had a lot of fun making this movie because of her co-stars. "It was fun because *masaya silang kausap*. And Andrew is a very humble person—to think *na noong nag-umpisa pa lang ako*, Andrew E *na siya*. And yet he treats me the same as everyone else."

RICA AND ANDREW E. First team-up.

100 years . . . (From page 11)

"Suriyothai" is about the legendary exploits of a Thai queen who lived in the ancient kingdom of Ayuttaya in the 1500s. She thrust herself into the thick of palace politics and died in battle while protecting her husband.

The film's overwhelming success *has* made Thai students more appreciative of their country's history. Even better, it has led to a revival of the Thai film industry, which has been thoroughly upstaged by Hollywood blockbusters for many years.

Loincloths

Another attention-calling production is Thanit Jitnukul's "Bang Rajan," about a group of Thai villagers in loincloths who protect their homes from invading Burmese forces. Its budget is double that of other Thai productions, but the additional investment has been well worth it, because the movie has made 300 million baht ($6.8 million) in Bangkok alone.

These occasional success stories have boosted the spirits of Thai filmmakers, who hope that audiences in Thailand will continue to support their movies, so that more local film products can be made this year, and Thai movies can soon reclaim their place in the heart of the domestic movie audience—and in the film world.

They note that moviegoers all over the world, specially in Europe, have been very appreciative of Asian movies, starting with China, Japan, Iran, and even Vietnam. They hope that Thailand is next.

Test case

To boost the chances of this happening, they are using "Suriyothai" as their best bet and test case. The film's director, Prince Chatri Chalerm Yukol, hopes that it will make it at least as a finalist in next year's foreign film Oscar category.

He also got some foreign talents to give the production an "international" look—veteran English composer Richard Harvey as music director, and award-winning German cameraman Igor Luther as director of cinematography.

One hundred years ago, Thai movies were first made by members of the royal family. Today, with Queen Sirikit and Prince Chatri Chalerm, the royal presence is again being felt, to get Thai movies out of the slump that they're in. Let's hope that the royal touch and influence prove beneficial once more.

We're blushing.

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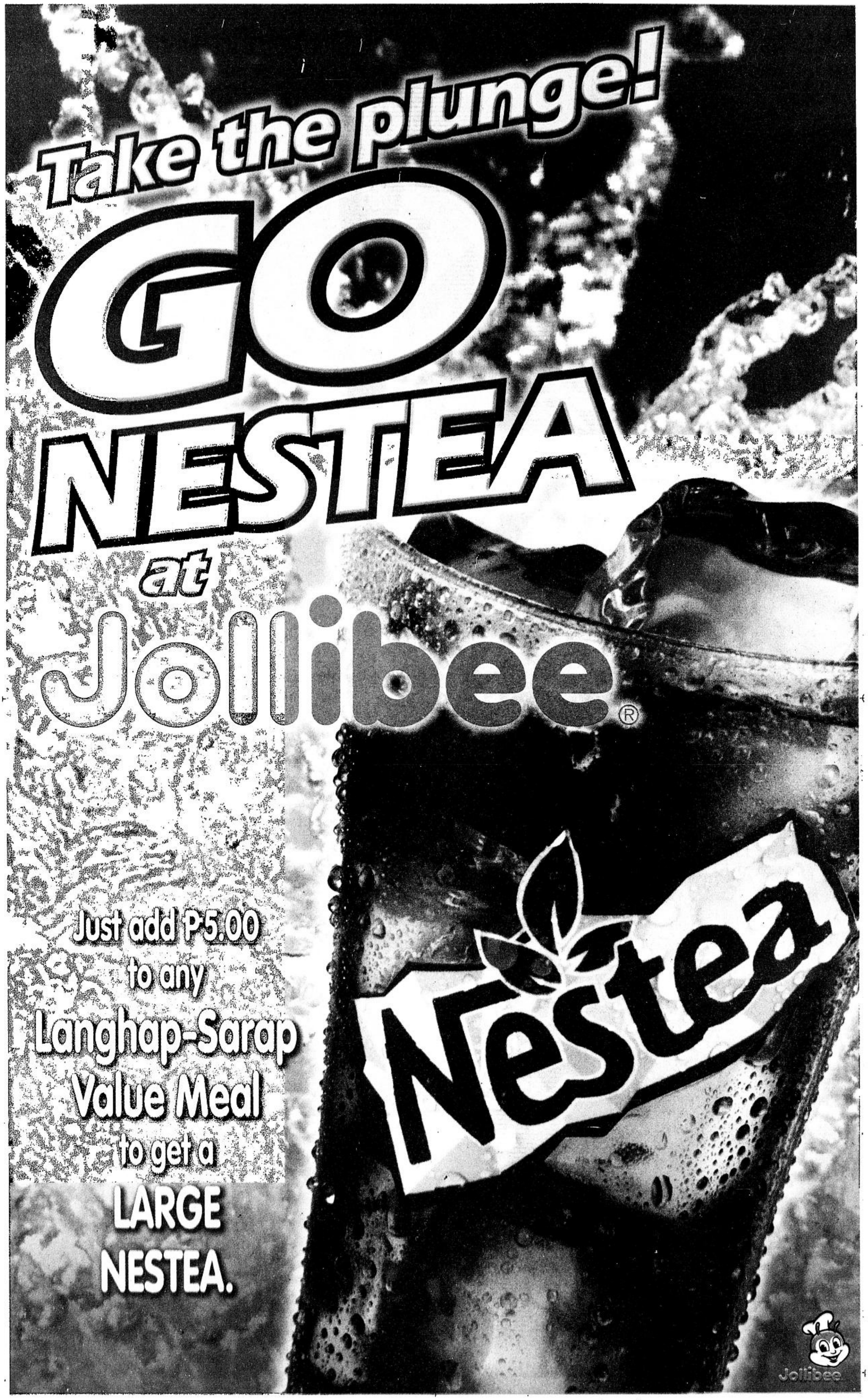
and all-time favorite brand of countless customers and patrons. Sometimes, it's almost too much just being bench/.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WHAT'S INSIDE:

- Ghost Months — Page 3
- Contests — Page 4
- Poetry — Page 6
- Shirley's Pets — Page 11

Pinoy Fun

BY MA. MONICA C. LUALHATI
JI CORRESPONDENT,
ST. BENEDICT COLLEGE

OUR school, St. Benedict College, celebrated the National Language Month on Aug. 24. This celebration was held to show that the use of the Filipino language is an important way to show the rights of a person. All levels, from Nursery to Grade 6 joined in the festivities.

The celebration started at 7:30 a.m. with a parade from the classrooms to the gym. Everyone in the parade, including the teachers, wore a national costume. There were several Igorots and Muslims, boys in *barong tagalog*, girls in *baro't saya* and some who even came in *ternos*. Unfortunately for us, the weather did not cooperate. So we saw Igorot boys shivering in the cold and pretty *señoritas* lifting their long skirts to avoid dipping them into puddles.

There was one area that did not have a roof and here we saw a row of mothers, teachers and visitors with open um-

Pinoy/ p.5

LITTLE DRUMER BOY. "We get to play the drum, nye-nye!"

Photos by ERIK ARAZAS

BIG SMILE. It was hot and some kids antsy, but everyone looked so good in their Filipino costumes.

And, in other schools...

Mural Minds at the ICA

AT THE IMMACULATE Concepcion Academy, all Grade 5 students worked on a large mural about the rights of children. Ever since classes started, we've discussed this issue in many of our subjects. This Filipino Week, we helped them in our own little way by making other people aware through our mural. ***Alexis Marquez Dy,*** *JI Correspondent, Immaculate Conception Academy*

No English, please!

OUR school had a "Tagalog Campaign." That meant you had to pay a small fine if you're caught speaking in English (well, except during English-subject time). We decorated our classrooms, planned some programs and games and prepared delicious Filipino food for the entire week. The food always disappeared instantly as soon as it was set on tables.

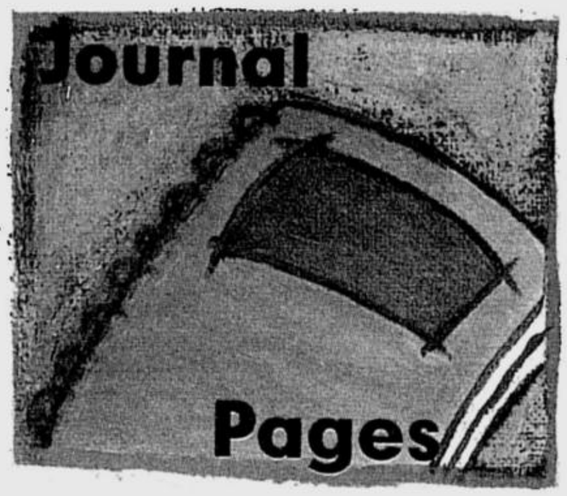
On the 24th of August, everyone—including our teachers—wore traditional Filipino costumes. That was fun! ***Joan Camille P. Ilagan,*** *JI Correspondent, Parañaque Science High School*

My Linggo ng Wika "trip"

PSSST! Hey! I was on a mission during the celebration of Linggo ng Wika on Aug.20-24. It was at my school, the UP Integrated School in Diliman, Quezon City. Like the other schools, we had a theme: "Wikang Filipino: Mahalagang Salik sa Pagpapahayag ng Karapatang Pantao." And like students in other schools, we all wore Filipiniana costumes that week.

We had a colorful parade and lots of contests. You know, the usual: poster-making, bulletin board decoration, group singing, group declamation and lots more!

It was at this point that I tripped over a rock and fell asleep. Oh, I wish I should've seen who won the contests! ***Joji Klarisse L. Mendoza,*** *JI Correspondent UP Integrated School, Quezon City*



My Speech Power Summer

BY STEPHANIE C. FERRER
ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE
QUEZON CITY

SUMMER usually consists of eating, sleeping, reading, watching TV and surfing the Net. I sometimes go to the mall and attend some birthday parties (and write articles for JI!). But last summer vacation I did something different and it was the best summer I've ever had!

I had signed up for classes in Speech Power: English Conversation Practice I and Speech and Elocution for High School. My lessons started on April 19.

My teacher in the English Conversation class was Ms Arlene Tan. There was a get-to-know-one-another activity and after a while, the ice was broken and everyone was having fun. My classmates there were Jhorrel, Esther, Apple, Margie, Robert and Nicka.

I had a pleasant surprise in my second class when I found out that Nicka and Robert were also enrolled there. Mr. Jeff Valisno was our teacher and my other classmates there were Thirdy, Cherrie, Reg, Grace, Precious, Jen, A.J., Mi-Ann, J.C.

Every meeting was fun-filled. I learned more vocabulary words, correct pronunciation, where to place the accent on some words, how to speak better in front of an audience and so many more. But my personal favorites were our VTR sessions and the studying the pieces "Medea" and "I Have A Dream".

After the many meetings, my classes had to end. At my Speech class party we all gave each other different colored paper with our names and other information. Each color had a different meaning. For example, red ones were for people we wouldn't forget, black pieces of paper were for trustworthy people, etc.

We had pizza, juice, soft drinks and lots of junk food in our English Conversation class party. We also took lots of pictures. While waiting to be fetched, I gave Nicka a gift. She had become a good friend of mine over the summer. I will also never forget her, because she's the one who influenced me to watch "Charmed" which is now one of my favorites.

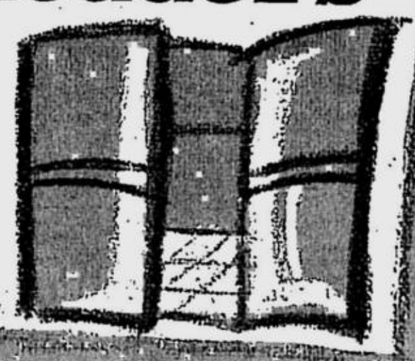
I send e-mails to Nicka from time to time. Sometimes I text Robert. I also kept the colored papers and other mementos to remind me of my fun-filled summer.

I learned so many things this summer vacation, other than my speech and vocabulary. I made so many friends and including the teachers (Thanks Ms Arlene and Sir Jeff!). I will always remember what happened last summer and keep it close to my heart.

Sound Familiar ?
Write down your thoughts now and send them to JI. Who knows, you might just get published!

Straight from JI Readers

You can now reach us via e-mail! Our address is **ji@inquirer.com.ph** Don't forget to include your complete name, age, snail mail address and your phone number. Hope to hear from you soon!



More science features, please

DEAR Editor,

I love JI so much! I have a JI collection and it includes an issue where there was news about an endangered Asian tiger. I often look through JI for science articles we can discuss in class. Please include more science articles. I'd really appreciate it.—**JOSE MIKHAIL CUBOL**, 12, Don Bosco Technical College, Mandaluyong City

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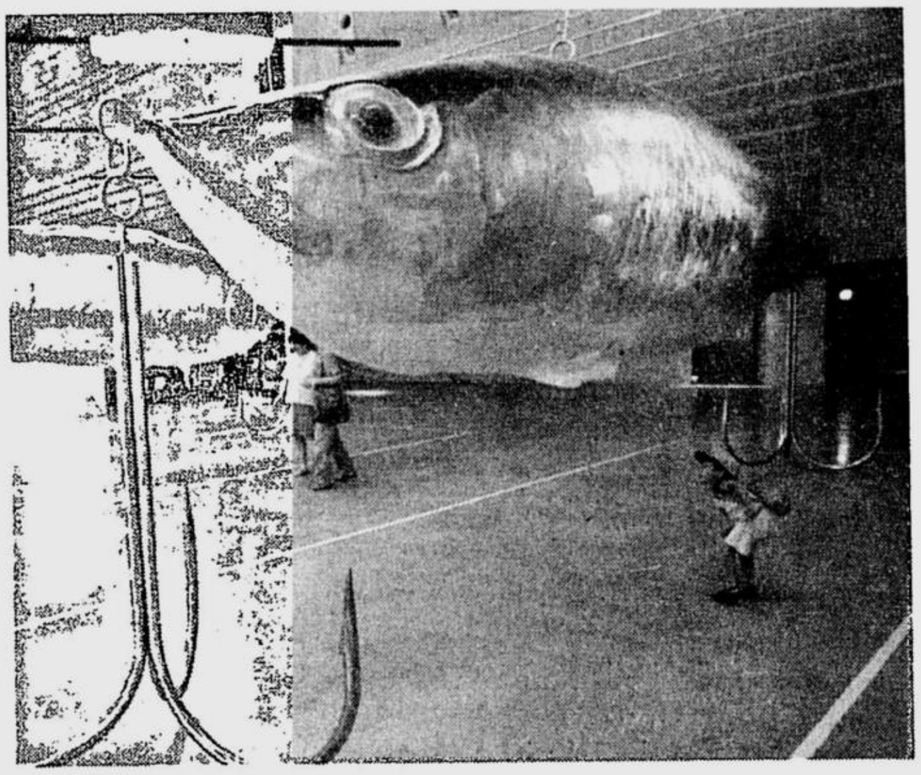
WORLD SCOPE

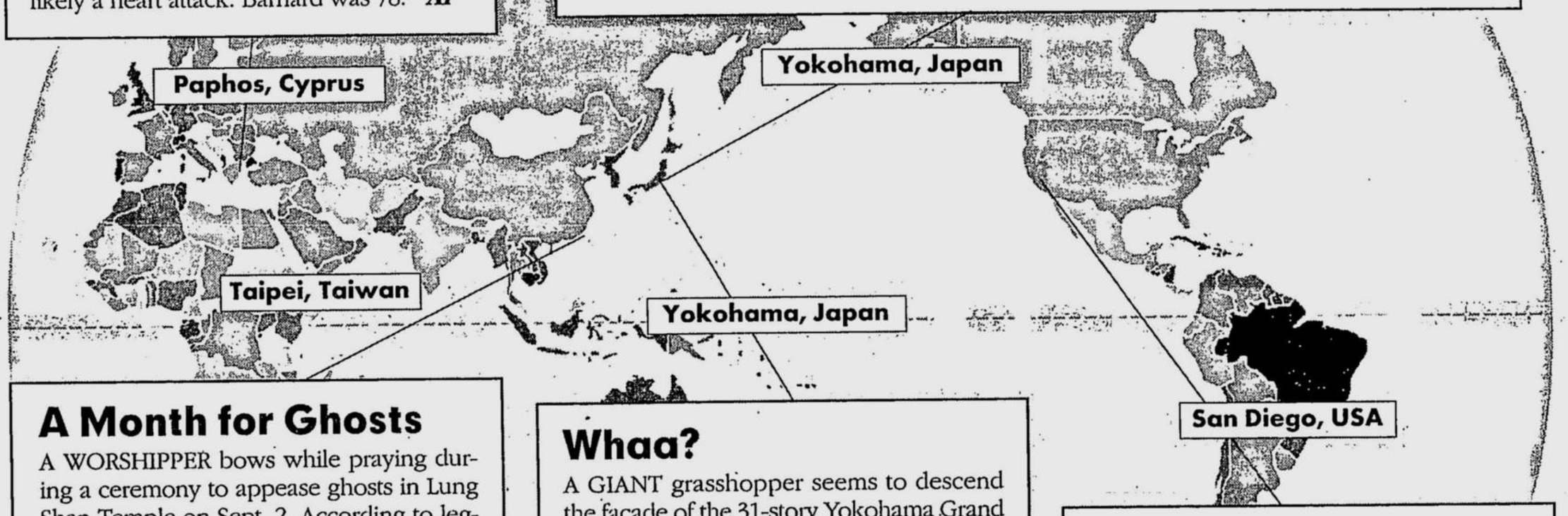
Heart transplant pioneer dies

ABOVE is an undated photo of heart surgeon Dr. Christiaan Barnard who made the world's first heart transplant in 1967 when he put the heart of road accident victim Denise Darvall into the chest of 55-year-old Louis Washkansky at the Groote Schuur Hospital in Cape Town, South Africa. Washkansky lived for 18 days before his body rejected the heart. The South African heart transplant pioneer died while on vacation in Paphos, Cyprus, on Sept. 1. Reports say the cause of death was most likely a heart attack. Barnard was 78. ***AP***



Small Boy, Big Fish

HERE is another interesting sculpture shown at the Yokohama 2001 International Triennale of Contemporary Art. A little boy looks up at a work in the shape of a huge lure titled "Two Kinds of Food" by Chinese-born Huang Yong Ping. Yokohama radiated with creative energy during the exhibition days as 110 artists from 38 countries had their work on display. ***AP***

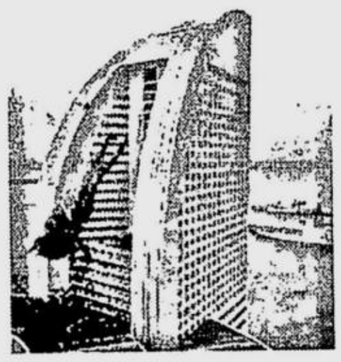


A Month for Ghosts

A WORSHIPPER bows while praying during a ceremony to appease ghosts in Lung Shan Temple on Sept. 2. According to legends, the gates of Hell are opened at the break of dawn on the first day of the seventh moon, letting the anguished souls in a world of darkness return to earth to visit their descendants and enjoy the feasts prepared in their honor. Ghosts without families return to wander aimlessly across the earth. To avoid being harassed by these outcasts, people offer sacrifices to the homeless ghosts as well as to their ancestors on this day. ***AP***

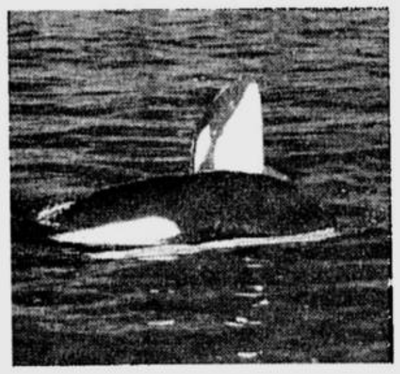
Whaa?

A GIANT grasshopper seems to descend the facade of the 31-story Yokohama Grand Inter-Continental Hotel. The insect, whose body is 34 meters long, actually is an art work in the form of balloon, jointly created by Japanese sculptor Noboru Tsubaki and Hisashi Muroi, a professor at the Faculty of Education and Human Sciences of Yokohama National University. It was set up for the International Triennale of Contemporary Art exhibition. The artists said it took four days to set up the creature. ***AP***



Hello, Baby!

A BABY killer whale, rear, swims close to its mother, Kasatka, at the Shamu Stadium at SeaWorld San Diego. Kasatka, 25, gave birth to the 350-pound calf at about 9 p.m. Sept. 1. The birth is the result of the first successful artificial insemination of any marine mammal, according to SeaWorld. ***AP***

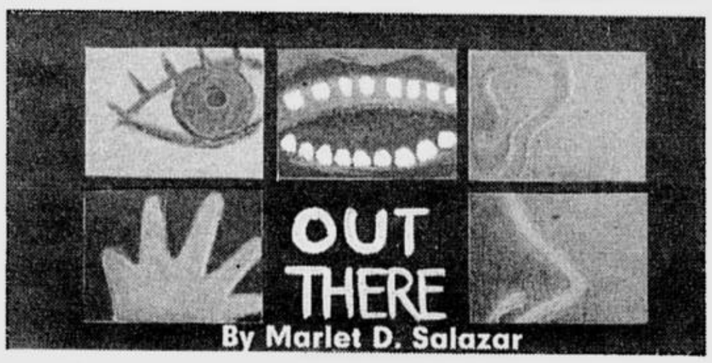


Contests

ON-THE-SPOT DRAWING. Check out the nearest Sacred Heart School in your area and join their Christmas Card Drawing contest: **Shangri-La Plaza**, tomorrow, 3 p.m. call 636-1277; **San Lorenzo, Makati**, Sept. 22, 2 p.m., call 894-2273/815-3058; **Tagaytay Highlands** Sept. 23, 1 p.m. (046) 413-0744; **Dela Rosa Makati**, Sept. 28, 2 p.m. call 810-8997; **Forbes Makati**, Sept. 29, 3 p.m. call 840-5493; **CAC Goodwill Bookstore, Glorietta Makati**, Sept. 30, 3 p.m. call 893-9079; **Malabon Branch** Oct. 6, 9 p.m. call 362-3154.

POSTER-MAKING CONTEST. Join the Citizen's Disaster Response Center's "Apoy, Bagyo, Kalamidad: Dibuhong Pambata" poster-making contest. Design posters that would tell people what to do in case of a disaster. Category A is open to kids ages 7-9 and Category B is for ages 10-12. Deadline is on Sept. 20. For more important info, visit any DECS regional and division offices for brochures and posters, CEAP regional offices and schools. Or you can call up 414-5275, 929-9822.

CHRISTMAS CARD DESIGN. The Metropolitan Museum of Manila will once again sponsor the yearly On-the-Spot Christmas Design Contest. For this year, the theme will focus on "Baby Jesus, the Star of Christmas." Exciting prizes await the winners. The winning entry will be printed as the Met Museum's Christmas card for 2001. Entries should be on a 15x20-inch illustration board. Use any of the following art materials: mixed 3-D collage, crayons and/or watercolor and craypas. Participants are requested to bring their own materials. Each participant can submit only one entry. Schools are requested to call the Met for reservations of slots not later than Sept. 24. Call 523-7855 or 524-0876 for more details. The contest is scheduled on Oct. 6, Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 12 nn at the Met Museum, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Complex, Roxas Boulevard, Manila.



Got something for Out There?
Send us the info two weeks in advance. Our fax numbers are 897-4793 up to 94. Don't forget to include your contact numbers and addresses.

Workshops

MP CLUB MEMBERS. Museo Pambata Club members are invited to join in the upcoming workshops today at 2 p.m. Simple Chores for Little Kids is open to kids 4-8 years old at the Karapatan Hall; Art and Crafts workshop is for children ages 9-13 at the Global Village. And for parents and caregivers there's the "How to Encourage your Children to Read" session at the Resource Center. Call up Museo Pambata at 523-1797 to 98 for more details. It is located at Roxas Boulevard corner South Drive, Manila.

MR. KLAYMAN. Have fun with *Kuya* Mar as he teaches you how to create animal designs and many others using colorful clay. Sponsored by Mr. Klayman, Doulos Trade, the workshop is held every Thursdays at 10 a.m. at Museo Pambata's Resource Center.

ART SESSIONS FOR FREE. Museo Pambata and Luntiang Daigdig Inc. offer an art and painting course for free. The class is open to kids 7-12 years old. Registration is required. Limited to 15 participants only. Call Dess at at 523-1797 to 98.

Stuff

NEW BOOKS. Check out Tahanan Books for Young Readers' new titles: "Supremo: The Story of Andres Bonifacio" by Sylvia Mendez Ventura and illustrations by Edgardo Fernandez; "The Great Malayan" by the late National Artist for Historical Literature Carlos Quirino; and "The Flying Friar: Patron Saints and their Amazing Lives" by Joseph V. Landy, S.J. with portraits by Frances C. Alcaraz. All these available at your nearest bookstores.

WEEEE! SPIN A WHEEL! Collect the newest fun toys from Jollibee. The Jolly Spin Wheel is a six-set swing toy with a wind-up machine that combines to form a ferris wheel. Each swing comes with different Jollibee mascots. The new Jolly Spin Wheel comes with every Jolly Kiddie meal and is available until Sept. 26. Grab one now!

Activities

SCIENCE CLUB. The Philippine Society of Youth Science Clubs invites all elementary and high school students to join the science club movement. PSYSC conducts annual interactive workshops, science camps and field trips all over the country that aims to promote public understanding of science, technology and environment. Call them up at 920-9561 and 920-8174 or write to 317 C. David's Place, Katipunan Ave., Loyola Heights, Quezon City. Check out their website www.psysc.org. Deadline's on Oct. 31.

Museum Moments

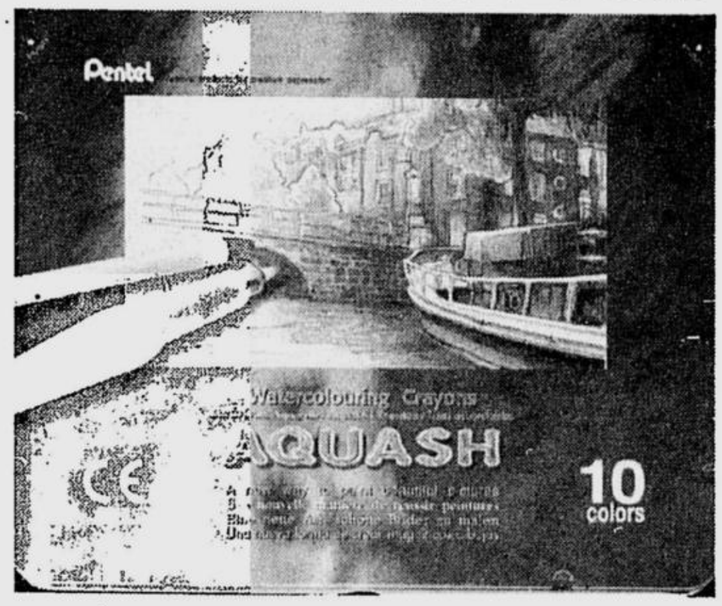
HANDS-ON EXHIBIT. Weave colorful mats, shape pots with your own hands, listen to grandma's sweet lullabies, and have fun rediscovering the beauty of Filipino culture in "Iba't-ibang Kamay, Iisang Buhay...Filipino!" a Museo Pambata traveling exhibit sponsored by NCCA. You can catch the exhibit until Sept. 30 at the Museo Pambata, Roxas Boulevard corner South Drive, Manila. For info call up 523-1797 to 98.

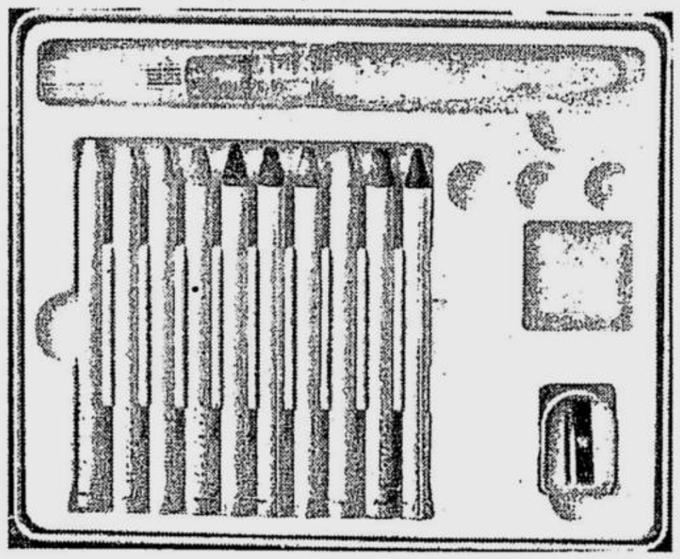
Cool Stuff

Wet those crayons!

EVER heard of water-coloring crayons? I have and I've tried them out. It was kind of weird. When I used them, the result looked like any old crayon coloring. But I used a water brush and *charan*! Water color effect! Cool.

I liked these crayons. They're great for people like me who love to draw but don't want the hassle of messy paints. It's also handy. You can bring it anywhere because it has a very compact case that includes 10 shades of water coloring crayons that you can mix and blend, a water brush that will help you create that professional watercolor effect and a sharpener.





RANDY HORMILLOSA

By the way, these crayons are called the Aquash Water coloring crayons, by Pentel. I think they're available in major school supply and arts stores. Check them out!

Maria Zobel Certeza

Pinoy Fun

(from page 1)

brellas for us to quickly pass through.

In the gym, there was a program. That was when the fun and excitement started. This began with a prayer, followed by the singing of the National Anthem. Our rector, Fr. Aloysius A. Maranan, OSB, gave the welcoming speech.

There were several musical numbers by the SBC Chorale, the Abbey Playhouse and chosen students from Nursery, Kinder and Prep. The winners in the storytelling and declamation contests from Grades 2 and 4 showed their skills and talent. So did the winners of the Poetry Interpretation Contests of Grades 1 and 3. Of course, there were some students who rendered solo numbers.

The best part of the program, and the most attractive one too, was the dance numbers by the teachers. The program ended with our singing of the SBC Hymn and we all left the gym in an orderly manner.

When we reached our classrooms, most of us changed into more comfortable clothing and then the best part came: The Agape. Agape means sharing and all of us brought Filipino food to share. There was *puto, dinuguan,* all sorts of *kakanin, sago't gulaman* and a lot of delicious stuff.

My mother comes from Biñan, so guess what I brought? Did you say *puto*? Well, you're wrong cause I brought *okoy*. The *okoy* from Biñan is really yummy. Something funny even happened. No one brought rice! So it was all desserts and viands.

After lunch, we had a mini-program for Grade 5. There was a fashion show of different costumes, a Filipino Quiz Bee and a Singing Contest. The hit song of Aiza Seguerra, "Pagdating ng Panahon," was sung more than once. We ended the school day by saying goodbye to our teachers and classmates.

It was really a fun and exciting day. I was with my classmates, as always but it was different because we were all dressed-up for the occasion. I really enjoyed myself and I hope that my teachers and classmates enjoyed it as much as I did.

JOURNALIST IN COSTUME. The author poses with some teachers and some students.

BRRR! It wasn't the best day to wear an Igorot costume.

Photos by ERIK ARAZAS

DAY FOR COSTUMES. What did YOU wear?

ALL TOGETHER NOW. It's group declamation time!

FOR or By KIDS

MUSIC BY MY NO

BY CHITTY G. CORTES

ILLUSTRATIONS BY STEPH BRAVO

Some noses are like tomatoes, big and round.
Some are like ice cream cones, tall and wide.
Some are like buttons small and flat.
Some look like airplanes and spaceships.
And others are like eggplants, long and fat.
Some looks like crabs and bird beaks.
And there are those like beehives and snails.

But no matter how noses look
they are all special.
Noses breathe in air and breathe it out.
They sniff flowers. . .hmmm!
And smell food. . .yummy!

OSE

And sometimes they twitch,
smelling something awful like. . .you.
They grow long when you tell a lie.
They grow big when things don't go nice.
And sometimes they cry,
when you get colds... .aaachu!

I know one extra special nose.
My sister calls it mushroom nose.
Because it is small, round and cute.
It can wiggle and wink,
and laugh my baby brother's heart out.
And when gloomy days come around,
When I get sick with sniffles and flu,
When can I barely breathe
and talk with colds, it gets me blue,
When my big sister and little brother are away,
And only my rosey nosey keeps me company.
Nosey makes funny sounds,
Tweeting birds and meowing cats,
ABC, Twinkle-twinkle Little Star,

Mary had a Little Lamb, Do, Re, Mi. . .
Oh how fun it could be,
When my nosey plays music for me.

***Chitty** lives in Quezon City. .*
***Steph** is JI's staff artist.*

You can Bank on Ryan

Ryan Joseph Magtibay shows how you can help parents out in good times or in bad

BY CHRISTINE C. RIVERO

THE TOY STORE. Kids' paradise. Parents' nightmare...sometimes. You know how it works. Somehow, the toy store has this incredible power to draw you in and keep you there until—*fwap!*—your hands latch on to something. . .something really cool and really wonderful that you absolutely can't let go of. Your parents, who absolutely want you to come home with them, are sometimes forced to buy that toy or you'll threaten to stay in the store permanently.

We're pretty sure everyone has felt that way sometime, even 11-year-old Ryan Joseph Magtibay. The only difference is, not all of us threaten our parents and some of us, like Ryan, know when it's best to walk away.

HPB: The Helping Parents Bank

"I just look at the toy and imagine playing with it, then I just go away," says Ryan, a fifth-grader at St. James College in Quezon City.

He's the sort of kid who never really thinks of buying anything big for himself. Ever since he was little, Ryan has been regularly setting aside some part of his allowance for things he needs in school. That way, he says, "I don't need to ask more money from my parents."

Of course, he could have just used the money to buy the board games he likes checking out in toy stores but Ryan insists, "The money I save is really just for my parents."

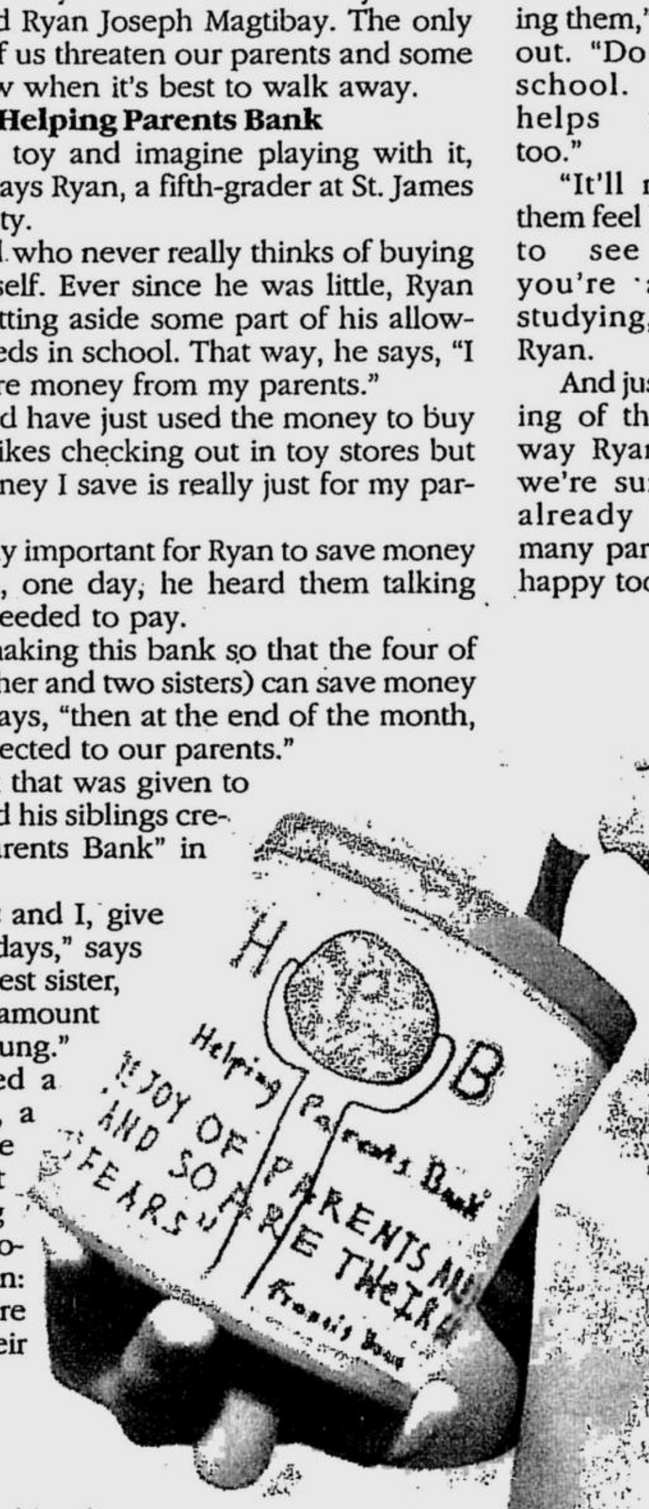
It became especially important for Ryan to save money for his parents when, one day, he heard them talking about the bills they needed to pay.

"So I thought of making this bank so that the four of us (Ryan has one brother and two sisters) can save money every five days," he says, "then at the end of the month, we give what we collected to our parents."

Using a coin bank that was given to him as a gift, Ryan and his siblings created the "Helping Parents Bank" in 1998.

"My *ate*, my *kuya* and I, give P10 each every five days," says Ryan, "but our youngest sister, Rizza, can give any amount because she's still young."

Ryan even created a logo for their bank, a hand holding the Earth, and beneath it wrote the following quote from the philosopher, Sir Francis Bacon: "The joy of parents are secret, and so are their grief and fears."



More than one way to help

"I just read it in a quotation book," says Ryan, "it means our parents hide what makes them happy, and they especially don't show their hardships or what makes them afraid."

"It made me feel sad to read that," he adds, "because that's how parents are, they hide what they feel sometimes to protect their children."

Saving money, though, isn't the only way kids can help their parents, according to Ryan. "Obeying your parents, that's one way of helping them," he points out. "Do well in school. That helps them too."

"It'll make them feel better to see that you're always studying," says Ryan.

And just thinking of them the way Ryan does, we're sure, will already make many parents very happy too.

SEE HOW EASY IT IS? If Ryan can do it, any kid can save up for his family too.

ROGER CARPIO

R U RRIFIC?

'Rrific kids are smart
'Rrific kids are fun
Some aren't in the honors list
But get their homework done

Somehow the world's
a better place
I know this much is true
Hey 'Rrific kid!
We know you're there
We love you 'cause you're you!

If you think you're `Rriffic' or know someone who is, fill out the nomination form below and send it to:

Junior Inquirer
'KIDS'R'RRIFIC' Page
Phil. Daily Inquirer, Chino Roces cor. Yague & Mascardo Sts.
1231 Makati City

Chosen nominees will be featured on this page and will get a free **Junior Inquirer T-shirt!**

Kid 'r'rrific
nomination form

I nominate: _____

Age: _____

I think she's/he's 'Rrific because:
(Here's a tip! Write a detailed description of a good deed, project or accomplishment by your nominee.)

_____

She/he lives at

_____

and studies at

_____

Her/his contact number is:

_____

Sender's Name:

_____

Sender's Age & School:

_____

Sender's Address:

_____

Sender's Contact No.

_____

PART ON, PARTY MOM!

A fun mom keeps the party lively with balloons, face-paint and cool homemade costumes

"IT ALL started as a hobby," says cheery Ma. Luz "Jig" Yan, "every time my kids, my nieces and my nephews would have birthday parties, we would always be on the lookout for party hosts, people who could put up puppet shows, everything of that sort."

Now year after year of going through the same perfect party search got a bit too tiring for this mom of three rowdy boys. Together with her sister, *Tita* Jig finally decided to do the party hosting themselves.

Tita Jig began with lessons in balloon arrangement and balloon twisting a couple years ago. Next she taught herself how to face paint just by reading some books. Then, after preparing countless costumes for her kids' school programs, she figured, "Why don't we make our own costumes too?"

"If you're familiar with children's shows and children's books, you get an idea how the costumes are supposed to look," says *Tita* Jig. And the secret, she adds, is in the cloth.

Costume Secrets

"Every time we would make costumes, we would use good cloth," she explains. They don't just look at the color of the cloth, but also how it folds and whether it will shimmer when light strikes it. "It should look like a rich kind of material," *Tita* Jig points out, "but at the same time, it should be appropriate for our weather."

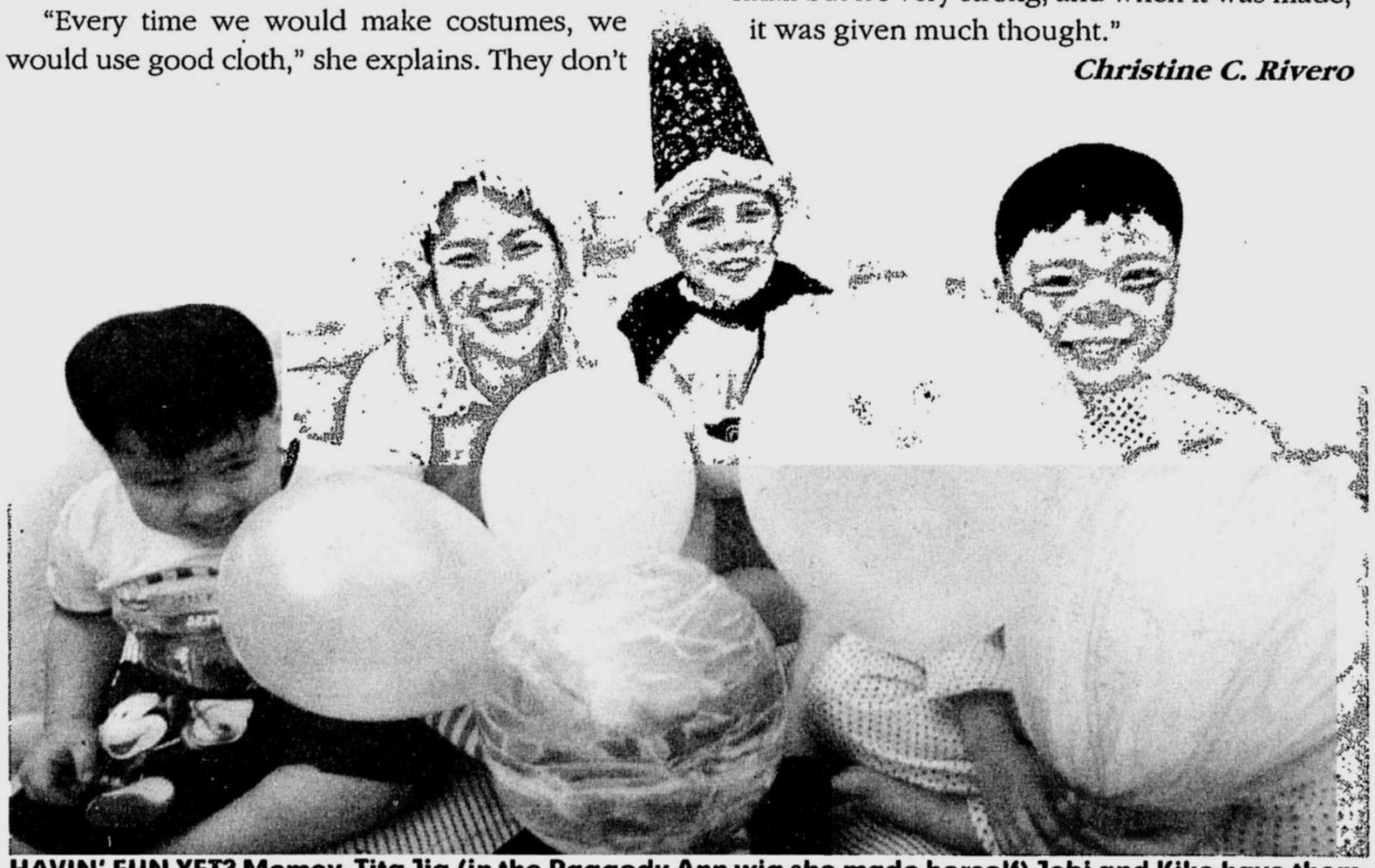
Among the costumes *Tita* Jig has managed to masterfully create is a complete set of Star Wars gear for each of her kids. She even made a Darth Sidious costume for herself and a jawa costume for her sister.

Tita Jig had so much fun hosting wacky costume parties for her family and friends, she decided to turn her hobby into a full-time business. Very soon she'll be opening a shop that sells her costumes and other party knick-knacks. She'll also be offering face painting and balloon arrangement, she could even host her customers' parties too. The shop, she says, is going to be called The Little Brick House.

"My sons' favorite story is The Three Little Pigs, where the youngest pig made a home out of bricks and it was the strongest one," says *Tita* Jig.

By calling her store The Little Brick House, she adds, she'd like people to see that "the house is small but it's very strong, and when it was made, it was given much thought."

Christine C. Rivero



HAVIN' FUN YET? Momoy, Tita Jig (in the Raggedy Ann wig she made herself) Jobi and Kiko have themselves a little picnic party.

JOANBONDOC

Do you know a grown-up who

- is fun to be with
- has an exciting job
- keeps an amazing hobby
- is all of the above???

If you know a grown-up whom all kids will love, give him or her the stamp:

A.K.A. COOL

Just fill out the nomination form below and tell us why your fave grown-up is the absolute coolest. If your nominee is chosen, ***YOU'LL*** *get a free JI T-shirt! Now that's really cool.*

A.K.A. COOL
is an 'adult known as cool'
They're the folks
in our own family
Or the people
we meet in school.

I nominate _____.
He/She is ____ years old and is my _____.
Here are five super solid reasons why I think you should write about him/her:
1)_____;
2)_____;
3)_____;
4)_____;
and
5)_____.

My nominee lives at_____
_____.
Give him/her a call at_____
_____ or send him/her an e-mail at_____.
By the way, I'm_____
_____.
I'm _____ years old.
My address is
_____.
You may call me at
_____.

Books and Characters

THE CLASSIC books on the left column have been separated from some of their characters. Can you lead the characters back to their respective "homes"? You earn an extra point if you can also name each book's author.

_____ 1. "The Wonderful Wizard of Oz"
_____ 2. "Little Women"
_____ 3. "Treasure Island"
_____ 4. "Tom Sawyer"
_____ 5. "The Three Musketeers"
_____ 6. "Gulliver's Travels"
_____ 7. "Peter Pan"
_____ 8. "Charlotte's Webb"
_____ 9. "A Christmas Carol"
_____ 10. "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland"
_____ 11. "Moby Dick"
_____ 12. "The Jungle Book"
_____ 13. "20,000 Leagues under the Sea"
_____ 14. "The Hunchback of Notre Dame"
_____ 15. "Winnie-The-Pooh"

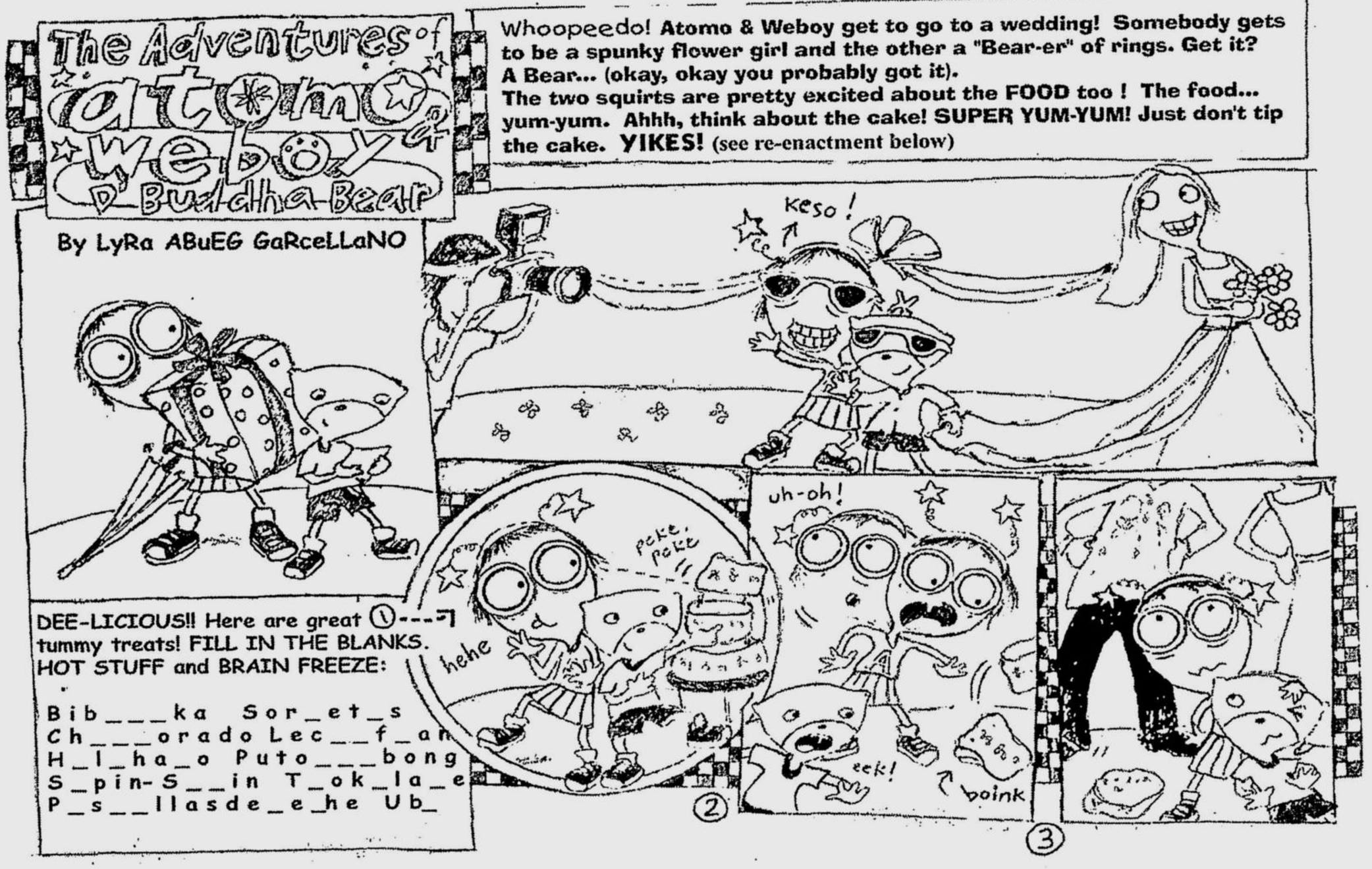
A. Athos, Porthos, Aramis
B. Wilbur, Fern
C. Dorothy, Toto
D. Capt. Ahab, Ishmael
E. Jo, Beg, Meg, Amy
F. Lilliputians, Yahoos
G. Quasimodo, Esmeralda
H. Mowgli, Baloo
I. Capt. Farrragut, Aronnax
J. Christopher Robin, Piglet
K. Capt. Hook, Tinker Bell
L. Huck Finn, Becky
M. Jim, Long John Silver
N. Mad Hatter, Dormouse
O. Scrooge, Tiny Tim

Answers

1. **C** (Frank L. Baum)
2. **E** (Louisa May Alcott)
3. **M** (Robert Louis Stevenson)
4. **L** (Mark Twain)
5. **A** (Alexander Dumas)
6. **F** (Jonathan Swift)
7. **K** (James Barrie)
8. **B** (E. B. White)
9. **O** (Charles Dickens)
10. **N** (Lewis Carroll)
11. **D** (Herman Melville)
12. **H** (Rudyard Kipling)
13. **I** (Jules Verne)
14. **G** (Victor Hugo)
15. **J** (A. A. Milne)

Ratings :

25 - 30 | 20 - 24 | 15 - 19



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BUCKLES

BY DAVID GILBERT

McDonald's™ celebrates

Pooh Friendship Day

Tigger
with Basketball

Rabbit
with Carrot

Pooh
with ~~Hunny~~ Pot

Kanga
with Roo

Piglet
with Watermelon

Lots of fun and adventure with all 5 FINGER PUPPETS!

Join Pooh Friendship Day
Sept. 20-23, Ayala Center Makati

Celebrating 75 years of friendship

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One toy in every HAPPY MEAL

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McSpaghetti™ Happy Meal P54

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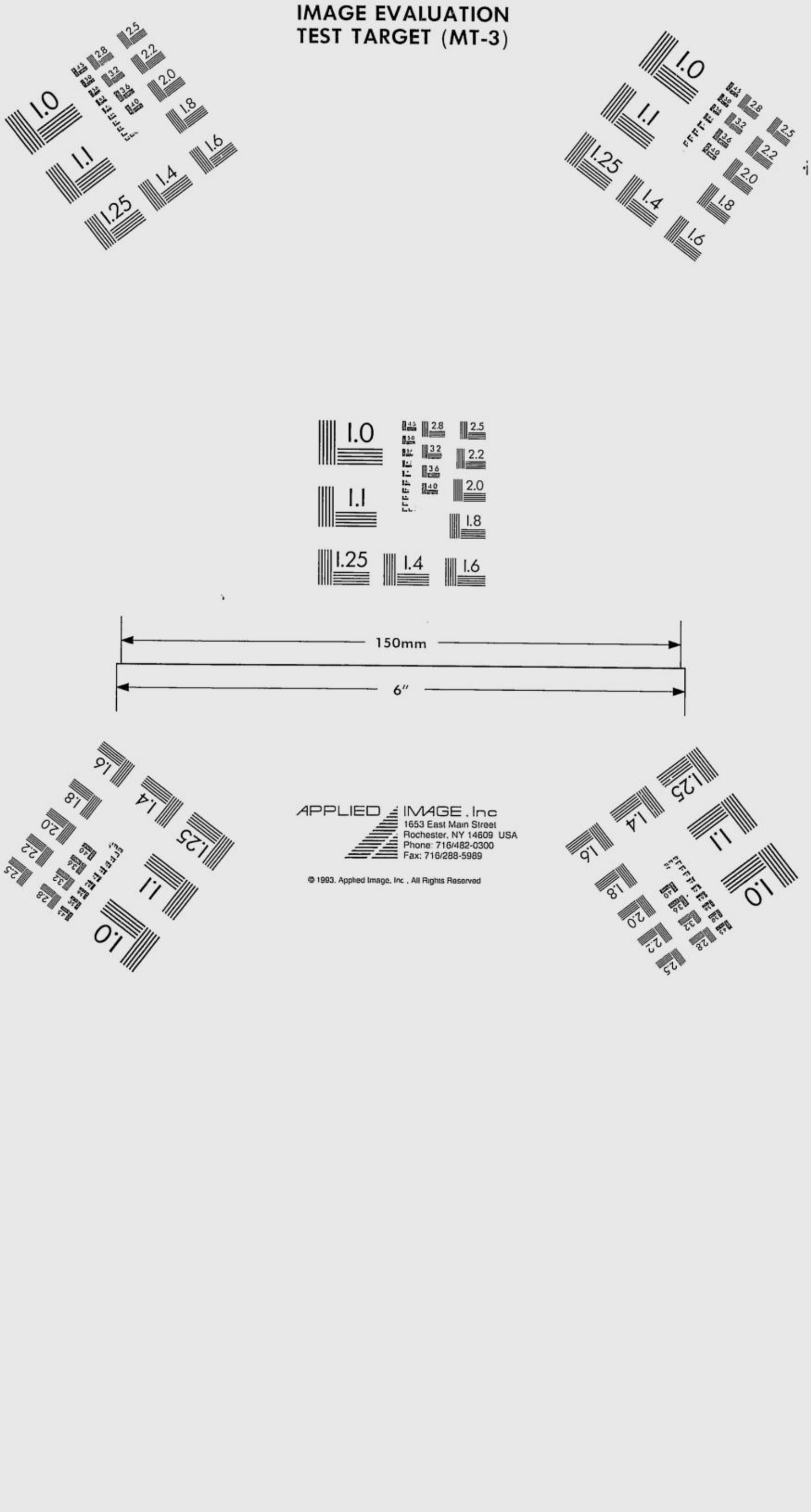

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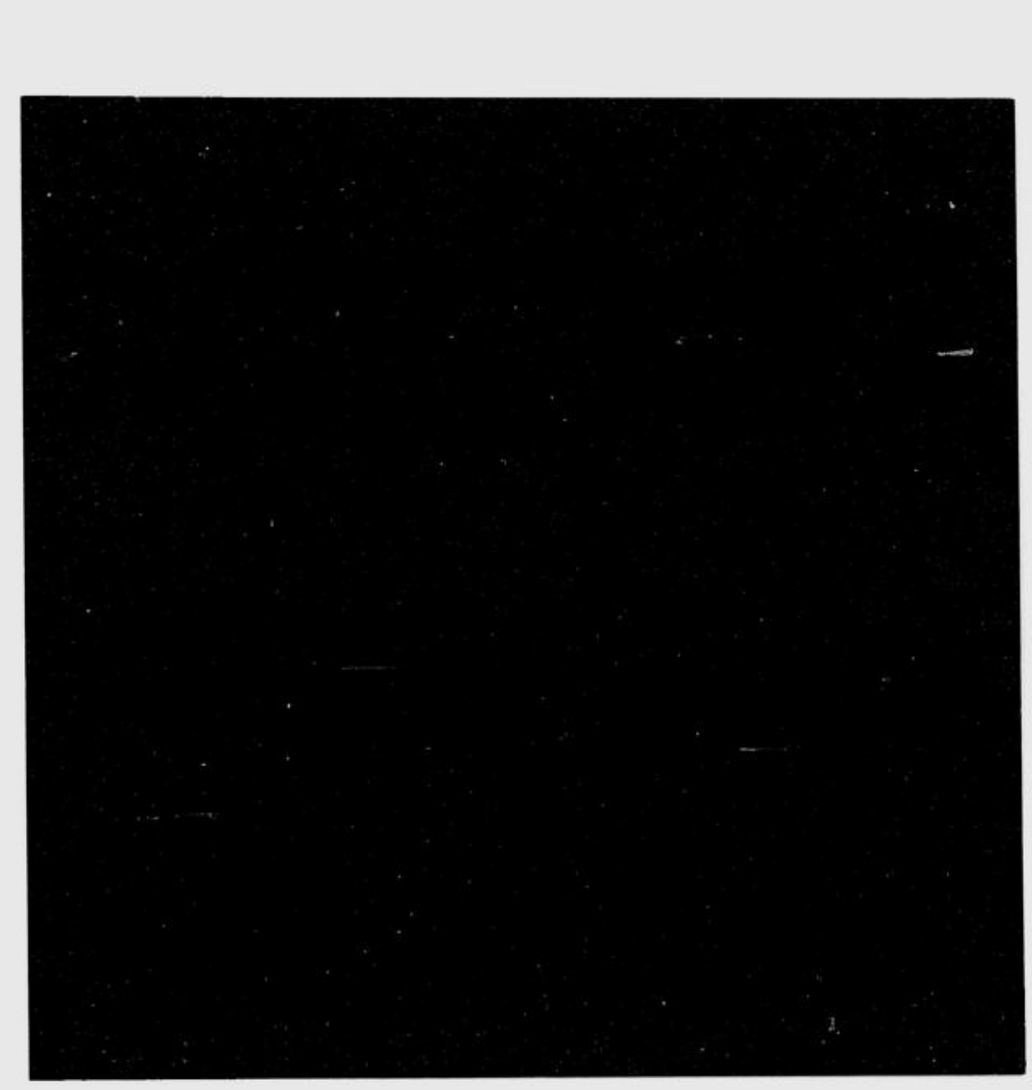
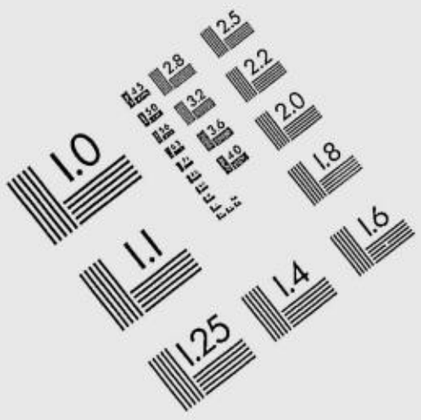
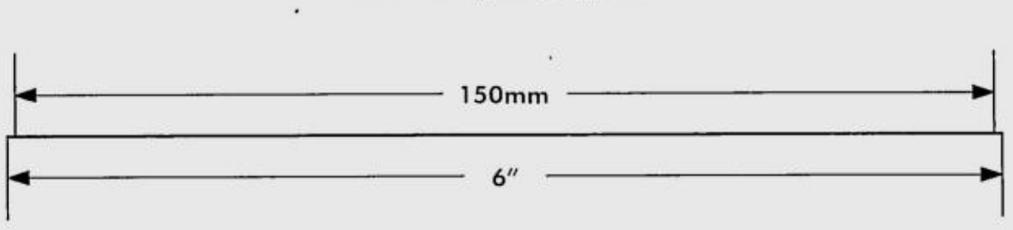
METRO MANILA, PHILIPPINES

SEPTEMBER
16 THRU 30
2001

REEL 269







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Gloria all out for US war on terrorism

STORY ON PAGE A2

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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER Sunday
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS

SEPTEMBER 16, 2001 ★ 76 PAGES 7 SECTIONS VOL.16 NO. 280

Filipina, volunteer marry amid tragedy

NEW YORK—A Philippine-born New Yorker and her fellow Red Cross volunteer had worked 36 hours at a stretch, putting together a list of missing persons after

FILIPINA/ A16

Novena seeks peace, solution to terrorism

BY NORMAN BORDADORA AND JUAN ESCANDOR JR.

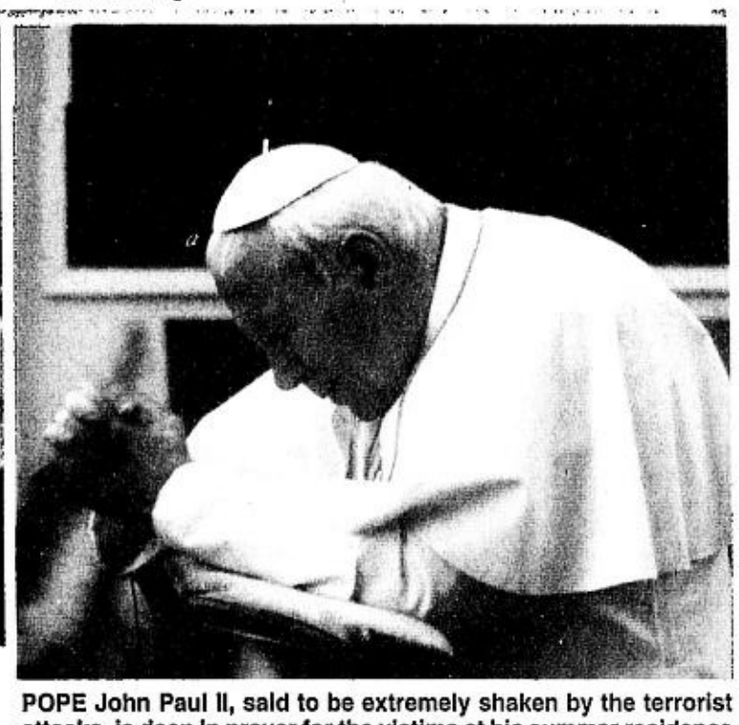
TODAY is a National Day of Prayer and Solidarity Against Terrorism, as declared yesterday by President Macapagal-Arroyo "in deep sympathy for the American people and all humanity."

"Let us take up again the torch of freedom as

RP/ A16

PATRIOTISM mixed with prayers at the National Cathedral in Washington attended by (from left) President George W. Bush, his wife Laura, former President George Bush, wife Barbara, former President Bill Clinton and New York Sen., Hillary Clinton. REUTERS

DAY of tears even for Queen Elizabeth as she leaves St. Paul's Cathedral where a memorial service was held. REUTERS



POPE John Paul II, said to be extremely shaken by the terrorist attacks, is deep in prayer for the victims at his summer residence outside Rome. REUTERS

World kneels in prayer

FILIPINOS led by former President Cory Aquino hear Mass at the Edsa Shrine. REUTERS

LIGHT in the darkness as the Catholic faithful in the Philippines start a novena of Masses. REUTERS

MONACO'S Prince Albert and his sister Princess Caroline of Hanover observe three minutes of silence. AP

FRENCH President Jacques Chirac leads an ecumenical service at the American church in Paris. AP

'Today we mourn, tomorrow we avenge'

A WOUNDED America of different faiths mourned deeply for its lost sons and daughters on Friday, as untold numbers prayed and wept together in what US President George W. Bush called "the middle hour of our grief."

Under a steady rain, the mighty gathered in Washington. Bush, who called for the day of remembrance for the victims of this week's terrorist attacks, attended an interfaith, invitation-only service at the majestic National Cathedral with former Presidents Bill Clinton, George Bush, Jimmy Carter and Gerald Ford, and former Vice President Al Gore.

"Our unity is in a kinship of grief and a steadfast resolve to prevail against our enemies," Bush said in a message read toward the end of the service. "And this unity against terror is now extended across the world."

US Vice President Dick Cheney was to attend a special memorial at the presidential retreat Camp David in Maryland, where he was moved Thursday to keep the president and vice president a safe distance apart.

Across America, hundreds of thousands assembled in houses of worship, parks and stadiums to sing "God Bless America" and "Amazing Grace," to pray and to remember the thousands of victims in New York, Washington and Pennsylvania.

Candles dotted private lawns, public parks, roads and even the grounds of Washington's Capitol building.

At the cathedral, prayers and readings were offered by Christian, Muslim and Jewish leaders. American patriotism mixed with prayer, and the president wove words of comfort in with messages of political resolve. *(See related story below.)*

In places, Friday's ceremonies felt like funerals. In others, they were like pep rallies for a nation at war.

Mourners at St. Paul's Church in Con-

TODAY/ A16

'My eyes have seen the glory'

NEW YORK—As President George W. Bush left ground zero Friday and prepared to head back to Washington, one woman held up a poster that said: "Angels are watching over you."

The woman was among thousands of New Yorkers who, bearing candles and flags, lined 42nd Street to see him off with a cheer. Another woman raised a sign that read: "My eyes have seen the glory."

A fire helmet on his head, Bush visited the wreckage of the once-mighty World Trade Center, where, he said later, he not only saw ugliness and heard anger but also beheld hope and felt strength.

He stood atop the charred and

MY/ A16

Americans raring to go to war, surveys show

"GO GET whoever did this," American rescue workers told US President George W. Bush at what remained of the World Trade Center in New York on Friday.

They spoke for legions.

As the United States moves toward a combat footing, the American public overwhelmingly stands behind Bush and his planned war on terrorism, the first surveys of public opinion after Tuesday's suicide attacks show.

"This nation is peaceful, but fierce when stirred to anger," Bush said at a packed memorial service in Washington's National Cathedral on Friday.

"This conflict was begun on the timing and terms of others; it will end in a way and at an hour of our choosing," he warned.

A military choir sang the defiant Civil War-era "Battle Hymn of the Republic" before an audience that included most of Washington's elite. *(See related story above.)*

About four in five people in the polls support military action to avenge Tuesday's strikes, think more terrorist attacks in the United States are at least somewhat likely and approve of the job being done by their President.

On Saturday, armed with congressional backing, the Bush administration planned meetings to plot "the first war of the 21st century."

Bush met at Camp David, Maryland, with his national security team, including Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, Sec-

AMERICANS/ A16

Fidel Castro, Buddhist monks, Finnish cabbies, stand by Americans

LONDON—Millions of people gathered in silence around the world Friday to express sympathy and friendship for a grieving American nation.

The global day of mourning for the victims of Tuesday's airborne attacks on New York and Washington began in Asia.

Sirens blared for one minute in South Korea and young children appeared outside the US Embassy in Seoul. Some knelt before the building and prayed silently.

In Iran, antipathy toward the United States was briefly set aside as 60,000 spectators sat quiet in their seats at the Tehran stadium and players stood silently on the field for one minute before a World Cup qualifying match.

In the Arabian Peninsula nation of Yemen, more than 100 journalists, intellectuals and government officials gathered at the US Embassy in San'a to offer condolences.

In Phnom Penh, 130 Buddhist monks chanted prayers as 150 Cambodians and foreign diplomats sat silently on the grounds of the Wat Botum pagoda.

Many in Europe reached back half a century to the still-fresh memory of American help received in time of need, and declared their continuing commitment to that old friendship.

More than 200,000 Berliners filled the broad boulevard leading to the Brandenburg Gate in a heartfelt demonstration of solidarity with the country that helped rebuild post-war Germany and sustained the divided city with an airlift during the Soviet blockade.

"No one knows better than the people here in Berlin what America has done for freedom and democracy in Germany," President Johannes Rau said. "Therefore we say to all Americans from Berlin: America does not stand alone."

Thousands of people, many of them Americans, filled St. Paul's Cathedral in London and overflowed into the surrounding plaza for a prayer service attended by Queen Elizabeth II and Prime Minister Tony Blair.

Tariq Muhammad Dhamial, a native of Pakistan, stood out in traditional Sunni Muslim black garb, a green head band and long beard.

"I am here to show as a Muslim that we condemn those acts," he said.

Inside, Archbishop of Canterbury George Carey said that although New York's World Trade Center had disappeared in smoke and carnage, "another, older, American icon was not submerged."

"The September morning sun continued to shine on the Statue of Liberty, her torch raised like a beacon . . . a symbol of all that is best in America," he said.

In Europe, stock exchanges from Norway to Austria stopped business for three minutes.

In Britain, people stood silently in shopping centers and firefighters stood at attention outside their stations as a mark of respect for the American firefighters lost in rescue efforts.

FIDEL/ A17

Second FRONT PAGE

All-out support for US war on terror–GMA

'What the United States feels the Philippines can do, we will do'

By Juan Escandor Jr.
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

NAGA CITY—The Philippines will give "all-out support" to the planned military action against international terrorism to be spearheaded by the United States in the wake of the airplane attacks against the latter's citizens and institutions, President Macapagal-Arroyo said here yesterday.

Ms Macapagal, who landed in nearby Legazpi City from her official working visit to Japan, said the Philippines will do whatever the Americans want with regard to the planned international action against terrorism.

"We will give all-out support. Of course, the United States is taking the lead in strategizing so what the United States would feel the Philippines could do is what we will do," she said.

The President was responding to a question by the Inquirer on whether the country would send troops or just allow the US to use local facilities from which to launch attacks against terrorists.

"As strategic allies of the United States, Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi (of Japan) and I confirmed our readiness to extend utmost assistance," Ms Macapagal said.

"And very importantly, too, as chartered members of the United Nations and as part of the international coalition against terrorism, we must actively implement the United Nations Security Council resolution which was approved unanimously on Sept. 12," she said.

Ms Macapagal was referring to the UN resolution which "calls on all states to work urgently together to bring to justice the perpetrators, organizers and sponsors of the terrorist attacks and presses that those responsible for aiding, supporting or harboring them will be held accountable."

The President also referred another paragraph of the resolution which "calls for the international community to redouble its efforts at preventing and suppressing terrorist acts."

She said she discussed with Koizumi specific measures to combat terrorism in the Asia-Pacific region but begged off from divulging details.

She said the Philippine government has found the means to assist the Filipino victims in New York and Washington and assistance centers have been set up in those cities.

Ms Macapagal said the help centers would provide information and support to those looking for Filipino victims of the carnage.

"We stand behind the call of the US for a coalition to fight international terrorism... any legitimate move that will help the objective, we are committed to that," said Vice President Teofisto Guingona.

National Security Adviser Roilo Golez said the US needed more than just moral support from its allies as it prepares to strike against those responsible for the devastating attacks on the World Trade Center in New York and the Pentagon in the US capital.

"We should be there (in the coalition) not just to cheer but to give a meaningful participation because we all are victims of terrorism as proven by the terrorism of the Abu Sayyaf," said Golez.

Guingona said that as part of the effort to help the US, Clark and Subic, the two former US bases, would be opened for use by coalition forces "to perhaps refuel, so they can proceed to accomplish the mission of ferreting out (the attackers)."

But he said the role the Philippines would play in the coalition was still not certain, remarking that "whether to send troops, a small force, intelligence or resources is not settled."

The left-leaning Bayan Muna representative in Congress, Crispin Beltran, however, is opposed to any offer of assistance to the US "in whatever form, even as a symbolic gesture."

Beltran said the Philippines "must not be a party to this planned genocide."

He accused the US of planning to "massacre millions" and stage "scheduled murders" in its "bloodthirsty quest for revenge."

"Massive retaliation will only make the entire world hostage to more violence," he said.

Two senators, meanwhile, see in the emerging global coalition against terrorism a boost for the Philippines' own fight against homegrown terrorists, particularly the Abu Sayyaf bandit group.

Sen. Aquilino Pimentel said he was in favor of a limited, but effective involvement of the US military, through high-tech arms and technology assistance, in the fight against the Abu Sayyaf.

Sen. Robert Barbers, chair of the Senate public order committee, wants even more direct involvement of US forces, saying the Abu Sayyaf forms part of the global network of international terrorists led by Saudi renegade billionaire Osama bin Laden.

The former interior secretary said there are clear indications that Bin Laden has been helping the Abu Sayyaf and various Moro rebel groups with funds, weapons and training.

"I would not be surprised if some members of the Abu Sayyaf are found to be directly or indirectly involved in the barbarous attacks on the US," he said.

Pimentel said he was against any direct US participation in the Philippines' fight against terrorists.

He described as a "little sensitive" the government's offer of the use of the US's former military bases here. ***With reports from Juliet Labog-Javellana, Armand Nocum, Norman Bordadora and AFP***

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Gloria gets deals, promises, apology from Japan

BY STELLA O. GONZALES

TOKYO (via PLDT)—President Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday ended her four-day official working visit to Japan, confident she has reassured Japanese business leaders and officials that the Philippines is safe and attractive for their investments and leaving with several agreements signed and more investments in the pipeline.

She also said that Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi had apologized for the ordeal Filipino comfort women endured during World War II.

"I am gratified that Prime Minister Koizumi acknowledged the issue of comfort women," Ms Macapagal said, referring to Filipinas forced to be sex slaves for occupying Japanese troops during World War II.

During four days of meetings with groups of Japanese businessmen, Ms Macapagal addressed investors' concerns about the Philippines, particularly with regard to law and order, labor unrest, infrastructure facilities, telecommunications facilities and the transport system, corruption and bureaucratic red tape.

Officials of the Sumitomo Metal Mining Corp. pledged to invest $150 million in a nickel processing project in Palawan. The Rio Tuba mining project, which will start operations in 2004, is expected to produce 10,000 tons of nickel and 750 tons of cobalt as mixed sulfides per year.

Ms Macapagal also witnessed the launching of the P25-million Internet Learning Kiosk (iLinK) project of Ayala Corp. and Mitsubishi Corp.

Ayala Corp. vice chair Fernando Zobel said iLinK would be implemented in selected Philippine public schools and would begin operations by mid-October.

A loan agreement for the Subic-Clark-Tarlac expressway project was also signed during the visit. To be financed mainly by the Japanese government, the expressway will cut to 30 minutes the current two-hour travel time from Clark to Subic.

The Japan Bank for International Cooperation will provide 41.9 billion yen ($338.9 million), or 85 percent of the project cost.

Officials of Itochu Corp. were offered Petron gasoline stations as possible locations for its Family Mart convenience stores.

Uichiro Niwa, president of Itochu, had told the President his company wanted to renegotiate with San Miguel Corp. for the distribution of the Philippine beer in Japan. He said negotiations initiated 15 years ago went nowhere.

Fujitsu Philippines assured Ms Macapagal the company has been approaching possible partners for joint operations so it would not have to close its plant in Tanauan, Batangas. The President was concerned about possible layoffs because of the plant's overproduction of hard disk drives.

Fujitsu currently has $800 million in investments in manufacturing and other facilities and employs 11,000 people in the Philippines.

Fujitsu also denied rumors it was transferring its operations out of the Philippines.

Fujitsu Ltd. president Noboyuki Akikusa told Ms Macapagal that he was impressed with the efficiency and productivity of Filipino workers.

Ms Macapagal said that in a meeting with Koizumi, he expressed his remorse and gave her a letter to be sent to all comfort women.

"As prime minister of Japan, I would like to extend anew my most sincere apologies and remorse to all the women who underwent immeasurable and terrible experiences and suffered incurable physical and psychological wounds as comfort women," Ms Macapagal quoted Koizumi's letter as saying.

"We must not evade the weight of the past lest we evade our responsibilities for the future," the letter said. *With an AFP report*

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	6:00PM - 7:00PM	Airbrush Demo
	7:00PM Onwards	Motorsports Video Show
September 27 (Thur)	2:00PM - 3:30PM	VIP Security Driving
	3:30PM - 5:00PM	How to Get Started in Motorsports
	5:00PM - 6:30PM	Airbrush Demo
	6:30PM Onwards	Motorsports Video Show
September 28 (Fri)	2:00PM - 3:30PM	VIP Security Driving
	3:30PM - 5:00PM	Motorsports Leads to Defensive Driving
	5:00PM - 6:30PM	Basics in Slalom Racing
	6:30PM - 8:00PM	How to Get Started in Motorsports
September 29 (Sat)	1:00PM - 2:30PM	PMA Guidelines on Customizing Cars
	2:30PM - 4:00PM	Airbrush Demo
	7:00PM Onwards	Motorsports Video Show
September 30 (Sun)	1:00PM - 2:30PM	Basics in Slalom Racing
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Pinay turns up alive; PAL resumes flights to US

BY D. PAZZIBUGAN

ONE of the 14 Filipinos so far reported missing in the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center in New York is alive and well, the Philippine consulate reported to the Department of Foreign Affairs yesterday.

An ad hoc DFA task force based in Manila said Cynthia Betita (not Betin as earlier reported) was found "alive and safe in her home in New Jersey."

The task force said the consulate did not provide details.

So far, the DFA has confirmed two Filipino-Americans killed in Tuesday's terror attacks, namely, Ruben Ornedo, 39, who was on American Airlines Flight 77 that crashed into the Pentagon, and Ronald Gamboa, 33, who was on United Airlines Flight 175 that slammed into the World Trade Center.

Those reported missing by the Philippine consulate in New York were Grace Alegre Cua, Hector Tamayo, Carl Allen Peralta, Ramon Grihalvo, Arnold Lim, Benilda Domingo, Jayceryll de Chavez, Marlyn Bautista, Renato Bonivacio, Maritess Santillan, Judy Fernandez, Joanna Vidal and Frederick Kuo.

As of yesterday afternoon, the DFA has received 131 "legitimate" inquiries from people who have not been able to contact family members in New York and Washington D.C. since the attacks.

The DFA has set up the following hotline numbers, 834-4940, 834-4997 and 834-4930, for those seeking help in finding missing relatives.

In the meantime, US aviation authorities have cleared Philippine Airlines to resume its regular service to the West Coast, making PAL one of the earliest air carriers to normalize its operations to the US.

Last night, two PAL flights departed Manila for Los Angeles, at 9:30 p.m., and San Francisco, at 10:15 p.m.

PAL got the green light early enough to mount the two flights but too late to reset two others canceled earlier in the day.

Early yesterday morning, PAL Flight 107 arrived from Vancouver, Canada after being grounded there for four days. Due back today at 4:05 a.m. from Los Angeles is PAL Flight 1097, which had been diverted to Vancouver.

In an advisory, the Federal Aviation Administration included PAL in its list of foreign carriers authorized to operate flights into and out of the US.

The authorization also covered any technical stops PAL may make in Honolulu.

For security reasons, PAL advised passengers not to bring sharp and pointed objects like pocket knives, cutters and corkscrews on board. Such objects should be placed in checked luggage, it said.

Passengers were also advised to check in at least three hours before the scheduled departure time. Only those with confirmed tickets for their flights would be allowed inside the terminal, PAL said.

To help in search efforts in New York, a US federal agency is asking for cell phone or pager numbers of people feared lost in the World Trade Center collapse.

"Cutting-edge radio frequency sniffers" from Lucent Technologies will be used to track down the devices, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) said.

A toll-free, 24-hour-a-day hotline is operational at 877-348-8579 for families of victims to call and provide the numbers of any cell phones or pagers victims might have had with them when terrorists attacked the center Tuesday morning.

Verizon, AT&T, Sprint, Nextel, Skytel and other wireless companies will help in the operation, FEMA officials said.

The companies are participating in a Wireless Emergency Response Team, which is deploying all possible state-of-the-art technologies to support search-and-rescue operations at ground zero. The team has been working around the clock since Tuesday's attacks, FEMA said.

Meanwhile, the Philippine Embassy in Pakistan has readied contingency plans to evacuate some 600 Filipinos living there in anticipation of a US retaliatory military strike in neighboring Afghanistan which is believed to be harboring suspected terrorist leader Osama bin Laden.

Charge d'affaires Jose Cabrera III said he saw no need to evacuate Filipinos at the moment although he has advised them to "take extra precautions."

He said he has told Filipinos to stay in their homes as much as possible and stock up on food in anticipation of violent anti-American protests following the Pakistani government's decision to support a US military strike.

He also asked the 14 Filipino NGO workers in the "high risk" area of Peshawar to move to Islamabad where it was "very secure," being government-controlled.

Peshawar is two and a half hours away from Islamabad by land.

"For now, there's no scenario to warrant an evacuation," Cabrera told the INQUIRER in a phone interview yesterday afternoon. He said though that "things could change rapidly."

He also reported there are no more Filipinos in Afghanistan. The last one, a United Nations volunteer, left Kabul Friday afternoon and is now in Islamabad, according to Cabrera. *With a CNN report*

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THE DAILY GOSPEL

Sunday, September 16, 2001
24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Ex 32:7-11, 13-14

Yahweh said to Moses, "Go down at once, for your people, whom you brought up from the land of Egypt, have corrupted themselves. They have quickly turned from the way I commanded them and have made for themselves a molten calf; they have bowed down before it and sacrificed to it and said: 'These are your gods, Israel, who brought you out of Egypt."

And Yahweh said to Moses, "I see that these people are a stiff-necked people. Now just leave me that my anger may blaze against them. I will destroy them, but of you I will make a great nation."

But Moses calmed the anger of Yahweh, his God, and said, "Why, O Yahweh, should your anger burst against your people whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with such great power and with a mighty hand? Remember your servants, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and the promise you yourself swore: I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land I spoke about I will give to them as an everlasting inheritance."

Yahweh then changed his mind and would not yet harm his people.

2nd Reading: 1 Tim 1:12-17

I give thanks to Christ Jesus, our Lord, who is my strength, who has considered me trustworthy and appointed me to his service, although I had been a blasphemer, a persecutor and a rabid enemy. However he took mercy on me because I did not know what I was doing when I opposed the faith; and the grace of our Lord was more than abundant, together with faith and Christian love.

This saying is true and worthy of belief: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the first. Because of that I was forgiven; Christ Jesus wanted to display his greatness in me so that I might be an example for all who are to believe and obtain eternal life. To the King of ages, the only God who lives beyond every perishable and visible creation—to him be honor and glory forever. Amen!

Gospel: Lk 15:1-32

Tax collectors and sinners were seeking the company of Jesus, all of them eager to hear what he had to say. But the Pharisees and the scribes frowned at this, muttering. "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them." So Jesus told them this parable:

"Who among you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, will not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and seek out the lost one till he finds it? And finding it, will he not joyfully carry it home on his shoulders? Then he will call his friends and neighbors together and say: 'Celebrate with me for I have found my lost sheep.' I tell you, just so, there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one repentant sinner than over ninety-nine upright who do not need to repent.

What woman, if she has ten silver coins and loses one, will not light a lamp and sweep the house in a thorough search till she finds the lost coin? And finding it, she will call her friends and neighbors and say: 'Celebrate with me for I have found the silver coin I lost!' I tell you, in the same way there is rejoicing among the angels of God over one repentant sinner."

Jesus continued, "There was a man with two sons. The younger said to his father: 'Give me my share of the estate.' So the father divided his property between them.

Some days later, the younger son gathered all his belongings and started off for a distant land where he squandered his wealth in loose living. Having spent everything, he was hard pressed when a severe famine broke out in that land. So he hired himself out to a well-to-do citizen of that place and was sent to work on a pig farm. So famished was he that he longed to fill his stomach even with the food given to the pigs, but no one offered him anything.

Finally coming to his senses, he said: 'How many of my father's hired workers have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! I will get up and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against God and before you. I no longer deserve to be called your son. Treat me then as one of your hired servants.' With that thought in mind he set off for his father's house.

He was still a long way off when his father caught sight of him. His father was so deeply moved with compassion that he ran out to meet him, threw his arms around his neck and kissed him. The son said: 'Father, I have sinned against Heaven and before you. I no longer deserve to be called your son…'

But the father turned to his servants: 'Quick! Bring out the finest robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Take the fattened calf and kill it. We shall celebrate and have a feast, for this son of mine was dead and has come back to life. He was lost and is found.' And the celebration began.

Meanwhile, the elder son had been working in the fields. As he returned and was near the house, he heard the sound of music and dancing. He called one of the servants and asked what it was all about. The servant answered: 'Your brother has come home safe and sound, and your father is so happy about it that he has ordered this celebration and killed the fattened calf.'

The elder son became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and pleaded with him. The indignant son said: 'Look, I have slaved for you all these years. Never have I disobeyed your orders. Yet you have never given me even a young goat to celebrate with my friends. Then when this son of yours returns after squandering your property with loose women, you kill the fattened calf for him.'

The father said: 'My son, you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. But this brother of yours was dead, and has come back to life. He was lost and is found. And for that we had to rejoice and be glad.'"

Commentary

The theme is God's joy of finding the lost one. The parables are addressed to his critics. The first two parables are treated for Nov. 8. So, let us take the story of the prodigal son. There are two main scenes. Scene I puts the father with his younger son who is asking for his inheritance. Very unbecoming of a son! Then his son goes away and squanders everything, until he runs out of money. Realizing at his miserable state, he decides to go home. While he is still far off, his father spots him and runs immediately to him and embraces him, as if nothing happened. No explanations asked. It is enough that he is home. The father restores everything to him and throws a party. Scene II finds the father with his older son who resents what's happening. The father gets out of his way to convince him to join, but to no avail. God is always welcoming.

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JDV's 'peace initiative' brings more bickering to House

BY V. CONTRERAS

IT was meant to defuse the word war between the so-called "Gang of Five and the "Call Boys" in the House of Representatives.

But the six-month suspension of House investigations declared by Speaker Jose de Venecia last week has itself become a new cause for bickering among House members.

A De Venecia ally yesterday lashed back at an opposition neophyte who assailed the Speaker's decision as being tantamount to a "gag order" on everyone.

"Only those with evil intentions would object to the moratorium (on House probes)," said veteran Isabela Rep. Rodolfo Albano.

Albano was irked by the remarks made last Friday by Palawan Rep. Abraham Mitra, who likened the suspension of House inquiries to "shutting down" the chamber.

Mitra warned of a "boom in anomalies," especially in the Executive Branch, with House members barred from becoming "whistle-blowers."

Albano explained the House "is not under a gag order nor is it abdicating its power to investigate, but is focusing on its role of legislating laws to revive the economy."

Meanwhile, Southern Leyte Rep. Aniceto Saludo Jr. is demanding a public apology from two House colleagues for saying he was a member of the "Gang of Five," alleged extortionists in the House.

Saludo said he also wanted the House committee on ethics to investigate House Minority Leader Neptali Gonzales Jr. of Mandaluyong and Senior Deputy Leader Francis Escudero of Sorsogon.

During a meeting on Wednesday night, Saludo said De Venecia had asked him to end the controversy "to save the House."

But Saludo said, "I don't give a damn if I destroy the House... I want to clear my name. It is all that matters to me."

Saludo said he challenged De Venecia to put a stop to the controversy by declaring that Saludo was not involved in any extortion based on the reported retraction of Gonzales and Escudero. *Jani Arnaiz, PDI Visayas Bureau*

Senate urged to investigate Naia project

ANOTHER legislator has filed a resolution seeking an investigation into the government's build-operate-transfer contract with the Philippine International Air Terminals Co. Inc. (Piatco) for the Ninoy Aquino International Airport Terminal 3 project.

Sen. Edgardo Angara urged the Senate blue ribbon committee to investigate the "alleged grossly anomalous contract with the end in view of recommending appropriate measures that would protect the interest of the government in all transactions entered into by its representatives."

In his three-page resolution, Angara said the contract might contain terms that violate the Constitution as well as Philippine laws.

He mentioned Piatco's exclusive right to operate the terminal "through only one entity, (the) Philippine Airport and Ground Services Inc. (PAGS), excluding other service providers."

Transportation Secretary Pantaleon Alvarez had said in an earlier interview, however, that service providers would have to go through a bidding process for the rights to operate in the new terminal.

He said some service providers who were interested in space at Naia Terminal 3 "just want to be assured of a spot as well as the same low rates they are now paying at the existing terminal."

Angara pointed out that Piatco was 57 percent foreign-owned, exceeding the 40-percent cap on foreign ownership of public utilities mandated in the Constitution. *Abigail L. Ho*

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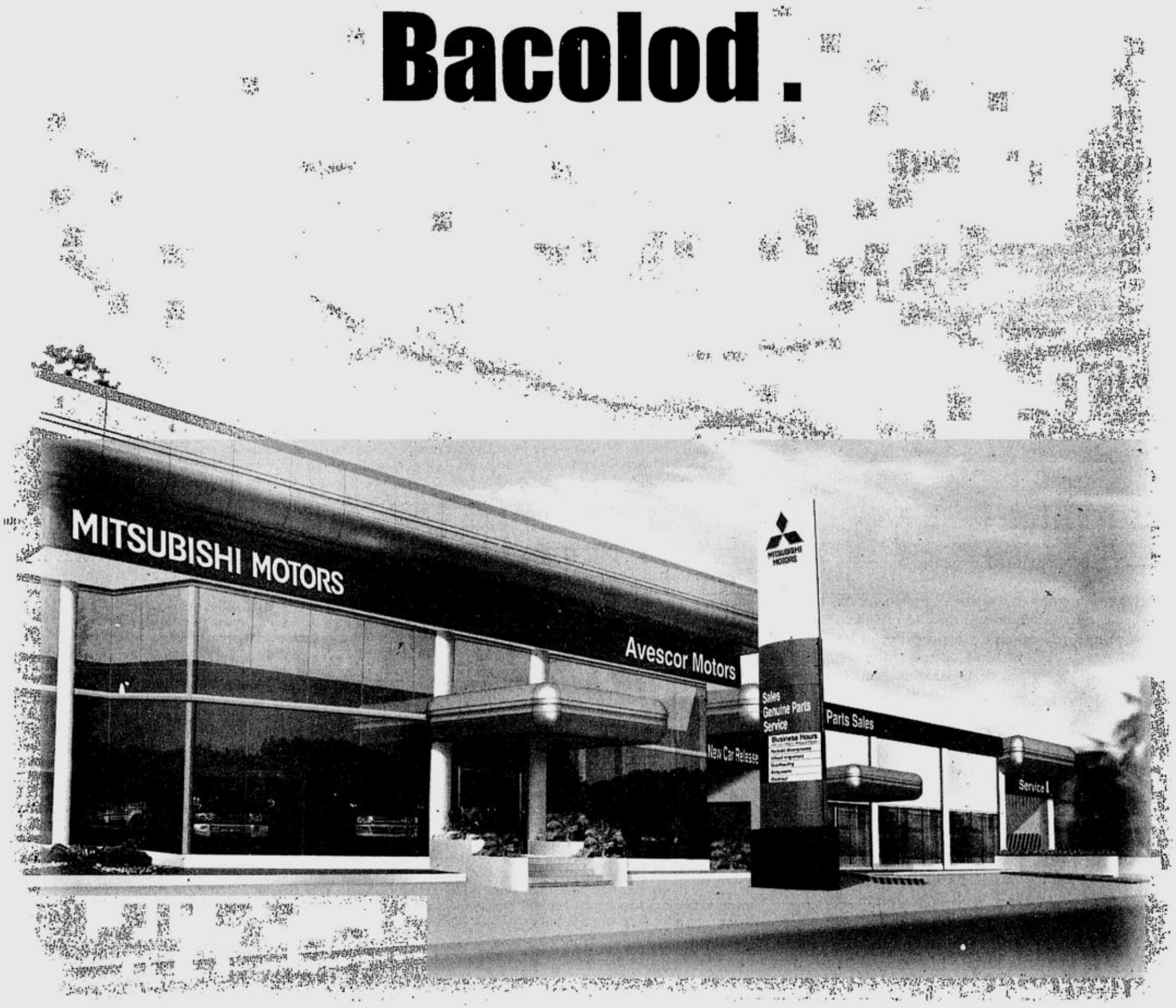

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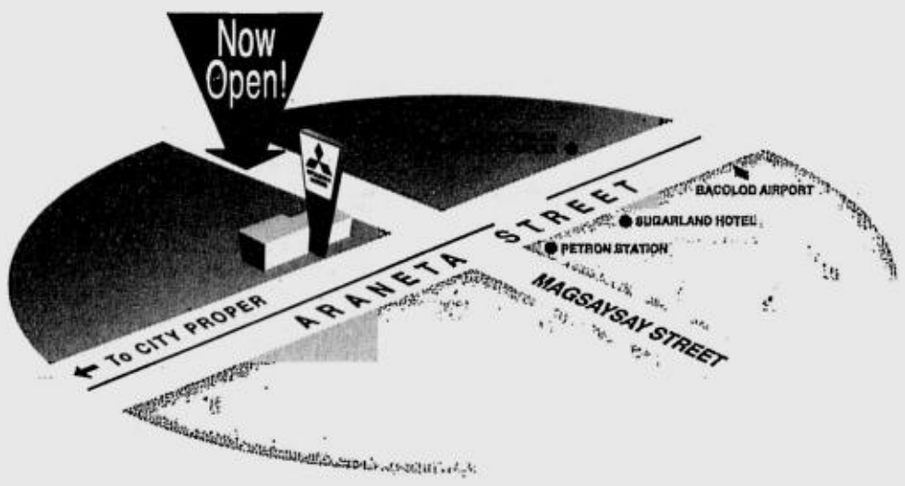

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Coming unhinged

WHEN Filipinos saw the two towers of the World Trade Center of New York being hit by hijacked passenger jets and erupting into fireballs, they also saw their dreams of a better life and a better world in a vastly improved new millennium turn to cinders. Most probably the other peoples of the world saw their own dreams similarly ruptured into smoldering ashes.

EDITORIALS

If there was one event in the new century that held together the world in horror and a feeling of shared tragedy, it would be last Tuesday's terrorist attacks in the United States. The images of the terrifying events that continue to flash before the television screens will forever be etched in the collective memory and in the universal consciousness. They are images that will haunt the world for generations to come.

The haunted, haunting feeling is seeping in. Even before Wall Street could declare another day of business, even before the New York Stock Exchange could ring the bell to open another market day, the dramatic attacks stopped commerce cold on its tracks. It will remain so in the Big Apple the weeks to come.

In the other world centers of business, the shock has been just as immediate. Stock exchanges that before the attacks were doing business in soporific fashion because of the creeping worldwide recession have ceased doing business altogether. The emerging markets of the Asia-Pacific, including the Philippines, have found themselves under the debris of ruined expectations.

The Philippines has found itself particularly vulnerable and defenseless. The terrorists obviously did not intend it, but the message of their attacks, particularly in New York, has been brought starkly home to Filipinos. The two symbols of the Filipino Diaspora, of the search for a better life—the passenger airplane that takes them to greener pastures and New York, whose streets, crude legend has it, are paved with gold always there for the taking—have been demolished right before their eyes. The ruins of the colossal collapse of the New York skyscraper have yet to be cleared. But it is certain that amid the rubble can be found the crushed hopes of millions of Filipinos.

Coming together

But Filipinos, like the rest of the world, won't feel crushed for long. After all, underlying the feeling of shared tragedy of the nations of the world is a feeling that terrorism must not be allowed to win the day. It is a feeling that is positive and potent. Terrorists cannot fashion a new world order according to their twisted vision without a fight. The peace-loving people of the world are not about to hand the new century to terrorists on a silver platter.

On their own, Filipinos are fighting back. Still recovering from their trauma, they have managed to dig deep into the resources of their soul and look at Terrorist Tuesday in humor, a little morbid, yes, but still relieving. Texters for instance are having a field day explaining the surprisingly small number of Filipino casualties in the towers' collapse. One explanation: "Filipino time," a catch phrase for Filipinos' propensity to tarry and be tardy.

Outside of texting, Filipinos have commiserated with New Yorkers and other American victims of the attacks. The Philippines was, in fact, one of the first countries to express sorrow and words of comfort to the American government. Moreover, it has vowed to do its best to check terrorism in its own backyard.

Of course, the real test of unity in the midst of terrorist adversity is to forge a united movement that will give no inch to terrorists and their backers. Already there has been a remarkable show of unity among many countries. The consensus is by no means blind and unswerving. Even the United States' former Cold War enemies feel enough is enough. Together, they will ensure that the responses to terrorism are credible, effective, and most important, will advance the cause of peace, not retard or demolish it like terrorist amok missions.

But before the war can be won in the battlefield, the war should first be won in the mind. The trauma of Tuesday may stay with us, but we should not allow it to enervate us. If we did so, then we would have handed the trophy to the terrorists. The terrorists seek to sow a climate of fear to enfeeble us. Against the sense of helplessness that Terrorist Tuesday may have engendered, let us rekindle a sense of hope.

The devil's disciples

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

ONE of the ugly aspects of the tragedy that ended the lives of thousands of innocent people in the United States last Sept. 11 was the spontaneous jubilation of some Arabs over the grisly mass murders committed presumably by their fellow ideologues.

There was dancing in the streets of the West Bank when the news broke that the Twin Towers in New York had collapsed and the Pentagon in Washington was burning as the result of the deliberate crash into these buildings of commercial airplanes hijacked by terrorists. Similar wild rejoicing gripped the people in other Arab countries known for their antagonism toward the United States.

Saddam Hussein of Iraq, whom the United States blocked when he attempted to annex Kuwait in 1990, publicly gloated that America deserved the "punishment for her crimes against humanity." Osama bin Laden, the international terrorist leader, suspected of orchestrating the diabolic attacks, "thanked Almighty Allah" for their success.

By contrast, the rest of the civilized world was shocked by the incredible deaths and destruction caused by the demonic attacks. Particularly distressing was the staggering number of innocent lives forfeited to the evil hatred of the terrorists.

The hijacked planes had been planned to crash into the doomed buildings when they were expected to be fully occupied, to cause the maximum number of deaths and injuries. The breakdown of the morale of the bereaved and anxious families was a secondary objective. Fortunately, a fourth plane intended to target the White House was foiled by the heroism of some passengers who resisted the terrorists.

In the entire history of the world, there has never been such a monumental catastrophe ever wrought by the hand of man (or the devil) as the devastation in New York and Washington.

Messages of condolence from all parts of the world were soon comforting the American people in their hour of grief and rage. Foreign governments were quick to commiserate with the United States and offer their support and assistance for the retaliatory moves its government was mulling.

There was a unanimous resolve to punish the perpetrators of the despicable acts and to prevent similar terrorist wickedness in the future. Significantly, even Russia and China, which are not high on the list of those who respect human rights, were among the countries angered by the heavy toll of human lives the terrorists exacted.

Arafat of the PLO distanced himself from his followers who celebrated the American tragedy, instead joining the many others who condemned it. Even Libya's Gadhafi, who has called the United States "the great Satan," did not rejoice over the traitorous acts that had caused so much travail to the people he despises.

The Philippines was one of the many states that reacted swiftly to the unspeakable carnage. President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo offered sympathies to the US government and expressed our readiness to help it in any way we can. Our other leaders agreed that we should stand with the United States not only as a traditional ally. As a democratic nation, we are committed to the observance of international law and the protection of human rights.

Not so, however, with the seldom-heard Sen. Gregorio Honasan. In one of his infrequent public pronouncements last Thursday, he again put his foot in his mouth. Against the overwhelming sentiment that the Philippines should join the rest of the civilized world in condemning the terrorists, he expressed a dissenting opinion.

The cautious senator, who led the failed coup attempts against the Aquino government that seriously impeded our economic progress, had reservations about our siding with the Americans. His reason, if I understood what he was trying to say, was that such a stand might strain our relations with the Arab nations and imperil our own security.

Honasan was reckless enough to endanger our own government and retard our economy in 1989, when he mounted his foolish coup. Now the snake-carrying paratrooper who made many a teenager swoon over his derring-do after Edsa I has lost his audacity. Perhaps he has been chastened by his non-battles in the Senate. The erstwhile warrior would now caution that our official impulsiveness might displease the Arab states and provoke their animosity.

I'll bet Sen. Loren Legarda has more spunk than her fellow senator. It's providential that Sen. Ralph Recto has beaten Honasan for the 12th place in the last election, giving our valiant colonel less than three more years to sleep in the Senate.

International terrorism is an offense not only by or against any single state. It is a crime against all humanity committed by anonymous murderers without scruples at killing people, even themselves. They are either acting individually out of fanatic zeal and hatred or with the support of governments motivated by political hostility or religious dogmatism. In either case, they have the venom of the cobra.

The American holocaust has emphasized the need for the civilized community of nations to take a common stand against this menace of the modern world. It has long held captive all of humanity, including—as events of the last several days have revealed—the most powerful nation on earth. We cannot remain at the mercy of faceless assassin or furtive governments disdainful of international law and order.

Even war has its rules against the callous taking of human life. The terrorists who crashed into the Twin Towers and the Pentagon followed only the fiendish urge to kill without reason, discrimination or mercy. They have perished with their blameless victims but their confederates are still on the loose to plot other massacres. They must be hunted down and destroyed as the devil's disciples.

Go home

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

* * *

The story of the loving father is the story of a father who goes out, and not just waits at the house. He goes out to meet the prodigal son halfway and he goes out of the house to plead with his older son to join the celebration. He does this for the sake of peace and reconciliation. The reason peace and reconciliation never take place is that nobody wants to give way, nobody wants to budge. In our country, in our homes, in our communities, in our relationships, we would have a lot of our problems solved if only we learned how to reach out.

* * *

If you look at the story of the Prodigal Son, conversion happened when he had the humility and the honesty to accept that he had sinned. The way things are happening in our country today, with all the charges and counter-charges, denials and counter-denials, we will never get anywhere. We will just exhaust our energy and resources indefinitely. In the meantime, our people, the little ones, continue to suffer. I can almost hear their angry plea: *Magpakatotoo na tayo para malutas na ang mga problema nating mga Pilipino.*

* * *

It has been weeks now since the five brothers of the late Fr. Rufus Halley came all the way from Waterford, Ireland to bury him. I was touched and moved by their simple presence. They traveled thousands of miles to express their unity and love for their brother, their forgiveness for the killers, and their prayer for peace in the Philippines. I hope that the martyrdom of Fr. Rufus and the sacrifice of the Halley family will be a reminder for us all to stop fighting and hating each other. Let us stop being resentful brothers. Let us become like the Halley brothers.

Emmet, Eamon, John, Gerry and Walter, we never had the chance to meet you, but please accept our deepest condolence and gratitude to you and to your mother in Ireland for having given us a most wonderful son, Fr. Rufus. His death will not be in vain. We believe that his blood as a martyr will enhance the growth of peace in our land, and peace in Ireland.

* * *

It's September already, and in about three months it will be Christmas again! Allow me to be one of the firsts to greet you merry Christmas! Amidst all the troubles and dark clouds, let us not lose sight of hope. We must continue to believe and keep on believing that something beautiful will happen, something good will come out of whatever mess we are going through now!

* * *

By the way, the story of the Prodigal Son ends with the elder brother refusing to enter the house, and the prodigal son already inside the house. I wonder what happened after that. Did the elder son continue to stay outside? Did the prodigal son go out to convince his brother? Or, did the father finally bring the two sons together? All hypothetical questions.

How about you? You are not hypothetical and you are not a question. You are real and you have the answer whether to stay out or go into your Father's home. *Uwi na*!

* * *

A moment with the Lord:

Lord, no matter how far or how long I have wandered, lead me, and help me to go home. Amen.

SOME TIME last week, Christopher de Leon, the famous actor and the able host of the popular TV show "Who wants to be a Millionaire?" came to me for confession. I could not of course tell you (I can't even remember) the content of his confession, but it was such a heartwarming moment to experience the sincerity and humility of Christopher, and feel the unconditional forgiveness of the Father. After he confessed all his sins, I asked him if that was all he wanted to say. He nodded. Then looking at him very seriously with matching curling lips, I said his famous line: "Is that your final answer?" And we both broke into laughter.

Yes, going home to the Father should not only be a serious event but a joyful event as well.

* * *

The story of the Prodigal Son (Lk. 14, 25-33) is a beautiful story of love and forgiveness that are stronger than selfishness and sin. It is a story of hope, that indeed anyone in a "50-50" situation can always "call a friend." The knowledge, the deep conviction that the loving Father always welcomes us, whoever we are, whatever we have been, is the "lifeline" that draws us from drowning in the sea of sin and darkness.

All we have to do is to go home to the Father. The door is always open. Don't stay away from home too far and too long. If today you hear His voice, go home to the loving Father.

* * *

The story of the resentful brother, on the other hand, is the story of pride and self-righteousness. Spiritual pride makes a person believe that he/she deserves God's love. None of us deserve God's love. The good deeds that we do should be seen as grateful responses to God's goodness, not a means to earn or merit His love. Let us not underestimate God's tremendous love. Neither should we limit it according to our own human and narrow standards. If God is generous, why should we be resentful?

Amidst global slowdown, RP must act faster

CROSSCURRENTS

Antonio T. Carpio

THE GLOBAL economy was already slowing down when the terrorists launched their devastating attacks on the centers of American economic and military might. Many economists now predict that the global economy is on the brink of recession, triggered largely by the fear of the unknown. For sure, no one can visualize how the "first war of the 21st century," as US President George Bush puts it, will be waged against a highly mobile and faceless enemy occupying no territory and operating with relative ease across national borders.

Amidst this uncertainty, most investors, including hardened vulture fund managers, are headed like a herd in only one direction—to the safe haven of US Treasury bonds. In troubled or uncertain times, investors suddenly become risk averse and prefer the proven safety of US Treasury bonds. For two straight days after the Sept. 11 "day of infamy," US Treasury bonds rose in value, indicating the sudden flight of capital to a safe haven.

Companies that previously planned to expand but have not yet started their expansions are most likely to hold back and adopt a wait-and-see attitude. The prudent course to take is to stay liquid to ride out the coming economic storm. The scenario for prudent investors is quite clear: no new investments until a clear picture emerges as to how the menace of terrorism will adversely affect the global economy. Will oil prices rise? Will international travel slow down? Will consumers spend less? There are still too many imponderables at this point.

How should the Macapagal administration respond to the anticipated drastic slowdown in foreign investments due to this wait-and-see attitude of investors? The Asean trade ministers who met in Hanoi last Friday have come up with the right answer: act faster! The Asean trade ministers agreed to accelerate by five years, from 2015 to 2010, the deadline for granting foreign investors the same treatment as local investors.

The Asean trade ministers are worried that the imminent entry of China to the World Trade Organization will make it more difficult for Asean to compete with China for foreign investments. At present China already attracts more than 50 percent of all foreign investments in Asia.

Officials of the Macapagal administration should respond similarly, by acting immediately on investment proposals submitted by foreign investors to their departments. In a matter of weeks, or even days, the boards of directors of these foreign investors, sitting in New York, will most likely recall their representatives who have been patiently camping in Manila following up their investment proposals with administration officials. When that happens, it will be probably several years before they return to the Philippines.

Last December 2000, the representatives of Casino, the giant French hypermart chain, were in Manila, ready to sign a final agreement to buy the cash-strapped Uniwide supermarket chain. The negotiations to nail down the agreement were long and tortuous but finally all creditors agreed and the only thing left to be done was to sign the agreement. Then the unexpected happened: bombs blew up the MRT stations in Metro Manila. Casino's board of directors, which was meeting in Paris at that time, heard the news and immediately told the Casino representatives in Manila to pack up and drop the Uniwide deal. The country lost over P12 billion in foreign investments. After Casino left, no one has shown any interest in Uniwide, which is now facing liquidation.

There are now several build-operate-transfer proposals pending in various government departments. These proposals include the construction of mass transit railways, the installation of water-generation systems, the rehabilitation of dams, the construction of ports, the setting up of a nationwide computer communication system, and other infrastructure projects. These projects do not require government funding. There are also several proposals for the buy-out of non-performing government financial assets like housing loans of government agencies. These proposals amount to several billions of US dollars in foreign investments. Sadly, no one in government seems to be interested in speeding up action on these proposals.

What happened during the Estrada administration is very instructive. In 1998 the outgoing Ramos administration left the incoming Estrada administration with about 40 BOT projects representing over $12 billion in foreign investments. Many of these BOT projects were about to be implemented and needed only the issuance of a performance undertaking by the government. In an abrupt change in government policy, the Estrada administration scrapped the issuance of performance undertakings.

All the BOT proponents promptly left the country and never came back. They were probably only too happy to leave because the peso devaluation that resulted from the 1997 financial crisis had changed the financials of their projects. The only exception was Impsa, an Argentinean firm that somehow managed to secure a performance undertaking from the Estrada administration. Impsa has recently completed rehabilitating the first turbine of the Caliraya dam.

With the global economy slowing down and probably soon hitting a recession, the Philippines must act immediately in processing investment proposals. We must do this before the proponents pack up their bags, either in exasperation or because of new conditions adversely affecting the global economy.

Bureaucracy gone amok

COMMENTARY

Crescente Villahermosa

IN HIS nationwide TV broadcast on Sept. 23, 1972, President Ferdinand Marcos announced that his main intention in declaring martial law was to reform society. He cited the government bureaucracy as one of the sectors of society that badly needed reform.

No one could dispute that assessment. Many people, including skeptics like this writer, hoped that somehow, despite himself, Marcos would succeed.

I became a government officer in 1976 and the head of our office was one of the trusted lieutenants of Marcos, who instructed us to draft policies as well as a decree which later had to be recomposed into a bill that he would introduce in the Batasang Pambansa reforming the bureaucracy. Our office head expounded on his idea: Under existing laws and regulations governing the civil service, government employees practically enjoyed an iron-clad tenure. It was very difficult, if not impossible, to kick them out of the service even if they were lazy, inefficient, disrespectful and corrupt. What the bureaucracy needed was more of the management mechanisms and options available in the private sector where employees were pressured to be productive.

The people I was working with included commissioners, directors and deans from the academe. I distinctly remember two lady directors, who were known rivals and hardly got along with one another, agreeing on one thing: we should rid the government of an aristocratic class composed of the princes and princesses belonging to government financial institutions and corporations. They named among others those in the Central Bank, Development Bank of the Philippines, Government Service Insurance System and the Social Security System.

Even then our bile would rise against them because the lowliest clerks and even drivers and messengers working for these institutions were earning twice if not thrice our salaries, although we were officers, lawyers and professionals with masteral degrees. Those people had every sort of fringe benefit: medicine allowance, air-conditioned bus shuttle, scholarships on government time and money, housing and car loan privileges, ad nauseam.

We completed our assignments. We were able to push reforms in hiring policies that gave advantages to more qualified applicants, including honor graduates, thus lessening the influence of political patronage. We improved orientation and training programs for the rank and file, middle-level management (officers) and executives (office heads, directors). These reforms were welded into place and are now part of the civil service system.

But the crucial reform of removing the much-abused armored tenure of government employees remained unenacted and unimplemented. By then our office head had already fallen out of favor with the dictator. He no longer held his influential post at the Palace.

What happened? In retrospect, I realize that Marcos probably did not want to—or could not push—through with his declared reform of the bureaucracy for two reasons:

Firstly, he needed all the allies he could have to prop up his hated dictatorship. Reforming the bureaucracy would ruffle the feathers of the lazy and supine government employees who were already cheerfully collaborating in his rape of democracy.

Secondly, the very government institutions that needed cleaning were virtually his piggy banks from which he funded his wife's extravagant projects and fed his greed for money. These were, as previously mentioned, the government financial institutions such as the SSS.

It is certainly too late now to reform the present crop of SSS employees. The worst of them have already earned masteral and doctoral degrees using public funds, time, equipment and supplies (e.g. the office computer and paper). *Masyado nang mayabang* and feeling self-important. They have tasted and feasted on obscene and shameless salaries and perks while the whole nation lived on the verge of starvation. They have savored the immoral victory of pulling down an upright and moral office head.

Bakit nga ba kinampihan nina Crispin Beltran *at* Satur Ocampo *ang mga iyan. Dahil ba malaki ang porsiyento ng* Kilusang Mayo Uno *sa mga dambuhalang mga suweldo nila bilang* union dues? *Itinanong mo pa!*

The Social Security System must be run as a cooperative by the members themselves. Look at the injustice. Why are the funds of private sector employees being administered by government employees who are not members of the SSS but of the Government Service Insurance System? *Kaya nga wala silang malasakit sa kuwarta natin. Tinataasan nila nang tinataasan ang kanilang mga suweldo kahit nagbibigay sila ng walang kwenta at madalas ay bastos pang serbisyo.*

Tingnan niyo na lang ang SSS branch *dito sa* La Union. *Ang pinahaharap sa mga miyembrong nangangailangan ng serbisyo ay ang kanilang mga walang alam at walang galang na mga sekyu na nagpaprocess pa ng mga opisyal na papeles. Ayaw humarap sa atin ang mga naturingang mga empleyado natin.*

That is why they feel no ounce of compunction when they vote astronomical bonuses for themselves to the tune of P360,000 per head as they did last year when the SSS was supposed to have been almost bankrupted after their former pliant boss Carlos Arellano invested our money in hare-brained gambling ventures such as the Estrada-sponsored Belle Corp. whose initial capitalization was mere saliva of charm.

Our Republic's founding fathers protected the tenure of civil servants to make them immune to unwarranted political pressure and for the sake of the stability and continuity of essential government services. The alternative, as they saw it, was to see a wholesale firing of government employees after every election and with newly elected officials changing them with their proteges who would cooperate with their immoral and illegal schemes to bilk the public.

Well and good. But unfortunately, this fail-safe mechanism against public service graft and corruption did not work. For instance what did the overpaid and overperked (P350,000 a month plus honoraria and per diems from corporations in which SSS money is invested) SSS vice president Horacio Templo do when Arellano and Estrada's cronies were raiding our funds? Where were the 59 SSS vice presidents who until now are enjoying emoluments of over P100,000 each per month plus fringe benefits? Did they stop the politicians from robbing us blind or did they help and share in the spoils?

The SSS members ought to unite and fire all of them. They have forfeited their place in the Social Security System.

Defining poverty

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

I WAS one of those invited to be a reactor in the third part of a lecture series sponsored by the Ramos Peace and Development Foundation held Thursday at the RCBC Tower in Makati.

Former President Fidel V. Ramos gave a talk on "Meeting the Challenges of Development and Poverty Alleviation," in which he emphasized the continuity of policies between his administration and that of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.

Also invited as reactors were Secretary Teresita Quintos Deles, lead convenor of the National Anti-Poverty Commission; Richard Ondrik, chief country officer for the Philippines of the Asian Development Bank; and Prof. Romulo Neri, director-general of the Congressional Planning and Budget Office.

Not having been provided copies of Ramos' talk (large parts of which he discarded in the wake of Tuesday's tragedy, anyway), most of us weren't really sure what we were supposed to react to. In between taking down notes on the former President's remarks and those of one's co-panelists, one also had to hastily scribble notes from which to address an audience composed of diplomats, Ramos Cabinet members, government officials and civic leaders.

At the end of the function, not a few members of the audience asked me for copies of my reaction. I had to confess that I was working only from notes, but promised I might cobble the notes together into a column, just to have a record of it in print. Here it is, then, with apologies for its hasty conception.

* * *

A RECENT SWS survey found that more Filipinos now perceive themselves as "poor." Yet the same survey also reports that fewer Filipinos experience hunger. How could people say they're poorer when they're eating better? Clearly, the availability of food is not the prime measure of poverty or prosperity. As I joked with friends while we were discussing this matter, these days, if you don't have a cell phone, you're poor.

How do people define poverty? "Being poor" is defined not just by one's personal circumstances, but also how one measures up to others, to relatives, neighbors, friends and society.

This reminds me of what an American woman teacher, in her book "An American Woman's Impressions of the Philippines," observed about what she called the Filipino male's "feminine pride." When you take public transportation in Manila (at the turn of the century, probably the *tranvia*), she said, you wouldn't know who is rich or poor judging from the clothes alone. All the men are equally well-dressed. But while the poor working man in America takes pride in his station and in his working clothes, poor Filipinos feel they must disguise their poverty with fine clothes.

* * *

WE LIVE in a poor country, true. But what makes things worse is that we are ashamed of our poverty, and therefore resentful of it. In this, I must admit the media play a big role. For the media have now become the arbiters of our values and aspirations, the main source of young people's perceived needs and desires. The media tell the vulnerable not what they "need," but what they should "want," thereby exacerbating what Ging Deles has called the "social exclusion" that rankles the marginalized.

The media, too, dictate our social aspirations, presenting us role models who define "what we want to be." Unfortunately, the choice of role models reflects our diminished values, the narrowing down of expectations.

I'm working on a book right now about the sex trafficking of Filipino women, and one thing that struck me was how casually the decision to go into sex work and then to engage in it abroad is being made. More than one woman told me that the decision was made very early in life, when the early batches of women coming home from Japan dazzled with their trendy outfits and boxes full of consumer goods.

* * *

STILL, there are values inherent in Philippine society that we can transform to help us fight poverty of both economic means and values.

Survey after survey shows that Filipino parents value education for their children above all. But we must seek to wean them from this love of college degrees, and instead implant the idea of a skills-based education to meet the practical needs of employers.

Filipinos also have a high sense of achievement and competitiveness. Filipinos abroad have proven that in an enabling environment, they can compete head-to-head with any foreigner. But why not instill a culture of performance and accomplishment among our people here?

Finally, I think that one's perception of poverty is a rating of not just one's present circumstances, but also of one's prospects. One would not feel so poor if one had a healthy sense of optimism and belief in the future. And if one had a sense of living in a country that was going somewhere, which is, by the way, what I consider the biggest accomplishment of the Ramos administration.

Let me close this by harking to the tragic events of Sept. 11. One thing that struck me as I watched the TV footage was the impact of the events on the average American. Nobody said "I have to get outta here, they're blowing up buildings!" Instead, you get the sense that the disasters, far from cowing them, made them even more determined to stay and re-build the city that they loved.

In the wake of "Edsa Puwera" and the march on Malacañang, so many among the Filipino middle class, the educated and comfortable who have the most to contribute to building society, entertained thoughts of leaving the country and fleeing the chaos, if they did not actually take the fateful step of migrating.

How would I define prosperity for this country? It would be a Philippines in which everyone has a firm sense of country and nationhood, and the resolve to declare, even after a crisis, "This is where I belong, and nothing and no one can drive me away."

To create a new kind of faith

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

THE CIVILIZED world is in shock over the magnitude and brazenness of last Tuesday's suicidal terrorist attacks against the United States of America. Nothing can justify the commission of atrocities on such a scale against innocent civilians in modern times. The act is unspeakable in its cruelty and barbarism.

That's the way we look at it. But in some parts of the world, the response to this tragedy has been, to our dismay, celebratory. Islamic nations that have long loathed America for its unilateral actions against recalcitrant Arab countries have praised these attacks. We may understand the gloating of the Iraqi people over this tragedy if we recall the relentless bombing of Baghdad by US forces in 1990. Palestinians too rejoice because behind their arch-enemy, Israel, they see the menacing shadow of the US, now exposed as a vulnerable foe after all. They are not uncivilized; they just view things differently.

"As to how to react," writes Noam Chomsky, "we have a choice. We can express justified horror; we can seek to understand what may have led to the crimes, which means making an effort to enter the minds of the likely perpetrators. If we choose the latter course, we can do no better than to listen to the words of Robert Fisk, whose direct knowledge and insight into the affairs of the region is unmatched after many years of distinguished reporting.

"Describing 'the wickedness and awesome cruelty of a crushed and humiliated people,' he writes that 'this is not the war of democracy versus terror that the world will be asked to believe in the coming days. It is also about American missiles smashing into Palestinian homes and US helicopters firing missiles into a Lebanese ambulance in 1996 and American shells crashing into a village called Qana and about a Lebanese militia—paid and uniformed by America's Israeli ally—hacking and raping and murdering their way through refugee camps.'"

To mention all these, even if true, at a time like this seems insensitive. Yet at the risk of being grossly misunderstood, Chomsky, one of America's most respected intellectuals, finds it necessary to call attention to the danger of viewing the Sept. 11 events as a choice between good and evil, or a struggle between democracy and terrorism. "It is likely to lead to harsh security controls, with many possible ramifications for undermining civil liberties and internal freedom."

America's initial shock is quickly giving way to outrage. Outrage will soon find its targets. As always, the first victims will be ordinary people whose only "crime" may be that they look Arabic or worship in a mosque or carry a Middle Eastern name. President Bush has called the suicide attacks an "act of war." But who is the enemy? Surveying the ruins of the Pentagon, security adviser Leon Fuerth, was heard saying: "In effect the country's at war but we don't have the coordinates of the enemy."

The reaction that Chomsky fears most has already begun. Writing from Boston, where she is doing her doctorate, Asian Institute of Management professor Tess del Rosario reports: "There were three raids today, one of them near my school, in a small hotel where there were supposedly suspects. Suddenly, this town felt invaded and the entire East Coast has become a hunting ground for anyone who might be connected, however remotely, to the attacks yesterday. What was remarkable was how we seemed to get used to it so fast—that from hereon, the streets of Boston will be filled with cops, and they can and will stop and search anyone.

"Americans expect their government to engage in retaliatory attacks very soon against a yet unnamed enemy. America needs to recover badly and quickly from its sudden powerlessness. It also wants to stoke a very deep anger that has just been unleashed, and will continue to grow and intensify in the days to come.

"I am afraid of the racist backlash that has already begun. I thought of the Pakistani gas station owner down the street from where I live, a warm cheerful man working in the middle of an all-White neighborhood. I wondered what he might be feeling, whether his fears have grown through the night, along with many other Middle Eastern small entrepreneurs scattered throughout Boston.

"The most frightful and cynical view I have yet heard is that Bush might use this occasion to buoy up his sagging popularity and engage in massive military spending to boost America's economy. The dollar took a bad beating yesterday in Europe and the stock market has remained closed for the second day. This country's leaders are desperate to project its strength to itself and to the outside world, a strength they fear has collapsed with the World Trade Center towers yesterday.

"This is a very sad day and there is a lot to grieve for, mostly because the world has irrevocably changed and we are challenged to create a new kind of faith. I wonder whether we are all up to the task."

These are fair warnings from people who otherwise salute America for the human freedoms it exemplifies. It takes courage to even suggest them at a time like this, when the only question that good people everywhere are asking is: How do we stop terrorism? But now indeed is the right moment to say them because a lethal mix of anger and fear grips the world's remaining superpower. If America indulges its rage and allows itself to be driven by the same arrogance that in the past caused it to launch punitive wars against entire nations, it will have descended to the level of barbarism where its enemies want to find it. Terrorism will then have succeeded.

THEY SAID

Carnage

"It is unimaginable, devastating, unspeakable carnage."
—United States firefighter Scott O'Grady on the terrorist attacks

Landmark in a truck

"I never thought I'd see the World Trade Center pass by me in a dump truck."
—United States volunteer Craig Chester on the aftermath of terrorist attacks

Emerging stronger

"We're not only going to rebuild, we're also going to come out stronger than before."
—New York Mayor Rudolph Guiliani

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TALK OF THE TOWN

JOHN NERY, Editor

Join the discussion. E-mail us at talk@inquirer.com.ph

Can it happen here?

IT IS almost impossible to stop a terrorist willing to exchange his life for that of his target. Last Tuesday, that old adage of counter-terrorism experts came to new life with the devastating airborne attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.Can the same thing happen in the Philippines?

In addition to the usual handful of elements required of a terrorist strike, the September 11 tragedy highlighted two factors: live television coverage, which magnified the terror of the attacks, and the use of suicide terrorists. It also introduced a virtually new weapon: wide-bodied, long-range aircraft loaded with aviation fuel. It was no coincidence that all four of the hijacked planes were bound for transcontinental destinations; each had several hours of fuel to spare when they crashed.

Now, as the world braces for copycat attacks, part of the public discourse must include the unspeakable. Are we, in fact, vulnerable to suicide bombers with unlikely but devastating weapons?

Since March this year, a group of firefighters has urged the government to relocate the oil depots in Pandacan, Manila, citing its vulnerability to an accidental fire or as a terrorist target. In response, Manila Mayor Lito Atienza said relocation was necessary, but may take five to 10 years. The terrible events last Tuesday, however, should make us see the danger of the oil depots with a new urgency. They are not only a target; they could also be a weapon.

Anatomy of terror

BY ALVIN ESTRADA
Spokesperson, United Firefighters Association of the Philippines

PREVIOUSLY thought of as unthinkable, the suicide attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon were nothing short of shocking. The sheer magnitude of the attack—in terms of preparation, logistical support, execution, number of casualties—sent a deadly warning: No one, not even the United States, is immune from this deadly terror. The world will never be the same again.

Terrorist groups are actually nothing new. History, or even the Bible itself, is peppered with vivid descriptions of their activities. Today, terrorist groups are convenient pawns in the deadly world of high politics. Despite Israel's present-day rhetoric, the Zionist movement used terror tactics to generate world awareness for their cause. The so-called moderate Arab states are no exception. Even today's superpowers, in their game of one-upmanship during the Cold War, directly or indirectly organized, funded, or utilized terror groups in pursuit of their particular agenda.

Organizationally, the bottom line is logistics. Success or failure of a terrorist strike is heavily dependent upon it. It is absurd to think that a group from a refugee camp can muster enough logistics to travel to America and stage simultaneous hijackings. Terror groups at present must be the product of nationalist movements previously organized and funded by diverse interest groups. The end of the Cold War left most of these warriors without a cause or a lifeline, making them extremely vulnerable to exploitation.

To the average man on the street, committing suicide for a cause is unthinkable or even outright stupid. Such is not the case with people living below subsistence levels until the age of consciousness, neither knowing nor understanding their fate. And let us not forget that this state of affairs has been going on for decades. Terror groups have at least two generations of able and willing martyrs to call upon.

Danger for all

This latest act of terror will definitely not go unpunished. There lies the danger for all of us, for we have to enter the vicious cycle of attrition and retribution. America, with all its allies, cannot eliminate terrorism in one clean sweep. US government officials themselves admit that. Granting that groups like the Hamas or Osama bin Laden's Al-Qaeda network are neutralized, there is no assurance that the terror will stop, unless their patrons are also stopped. After America's initial counter-strike, terrorist groups will not remain silent.

Likely targets in developed nations, however, will now be scarce. With their resources, these countries can mobilize protective measures which countries like the Philippines can only dream of. Terror groups that can no longer mount an attack as spectacular and as complicated as that on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon will choose new targets on the basis of expediency and economy.

Historically, terror groups have usually struck at an enemy's business interests. These are not as heavily protected as a military site. They allow terrorists to hurt the enemy economically. And, not least, they also often offer a higher number of potential casualties.

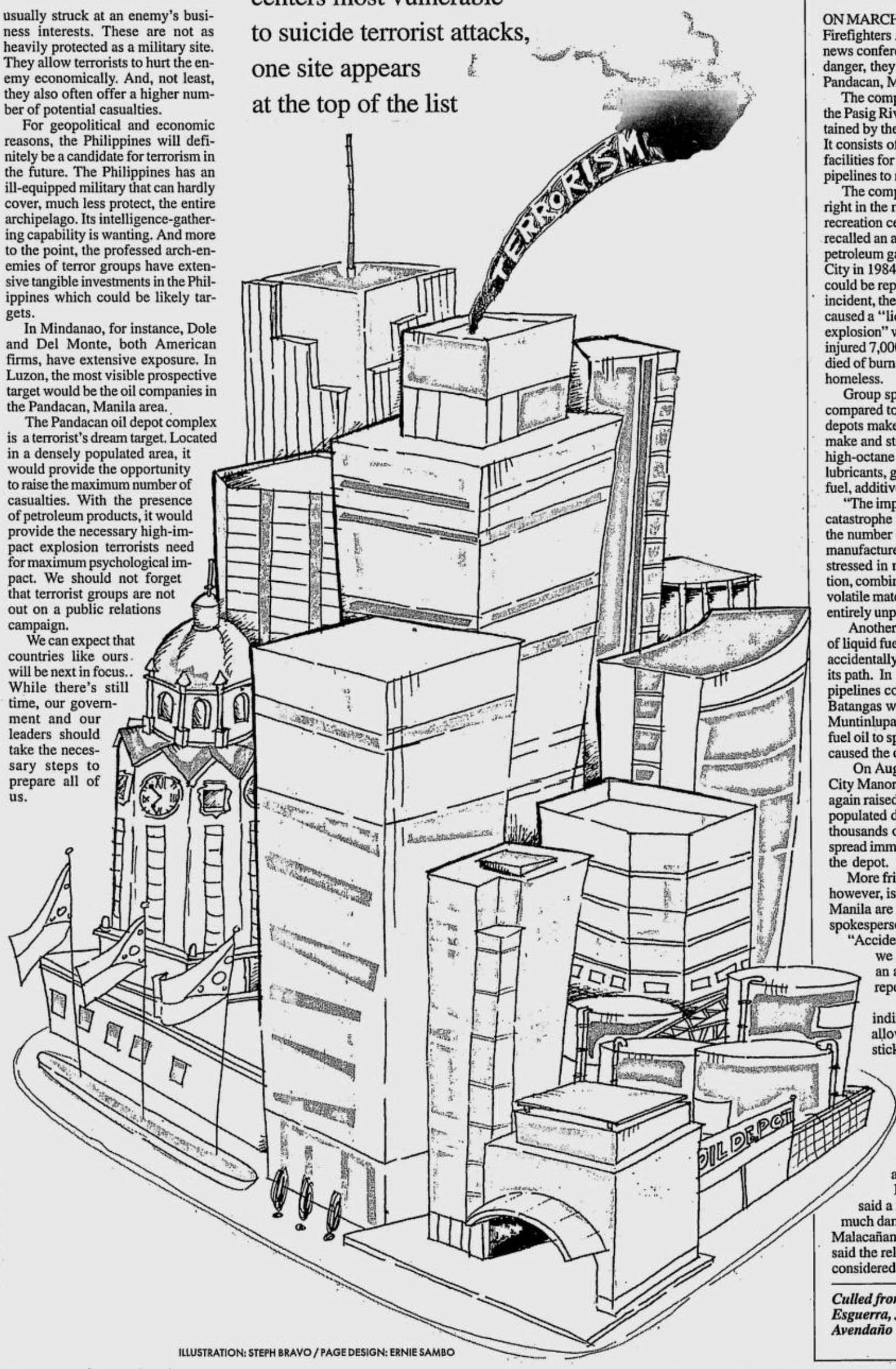
For geopolitical and economic reasons, the Philippines will definitely be a candidate for terrorism in the future. The Philippines has an ill-equipped military that can hardly cover, much less protect, the entire archipelago. Its intelligence-gathering capability is wanting. And more to the point, the professed arch-enemies of terror groups have extensive tangible investments in the Philippines which could be likely targets.

In Mindanao, for instance, Dole and Del Monte, both American firms, have extensive exposure. In Luzon, the most visible prospective target would be the oil companies in the Pandacan, Manila area.

The Pandacan oil depot complex is a terrorist's dream target. Located in a densely populated area, it would provide the opportunity to raise the maximum number of casualties. With the presence of petroleum products, it would provide the necessary high-impact explosion terrorists need for maximum psychological impact. We should not forget that terrorist groups are not out on a public relations campaign.

We can expect that countries like ours will be next in focus. While there's still time, our government and our leaders should take the necessary steps to prepare all of us.

In any survey of Philippine landmarks and population centers most vulnerable to suicide terrorist attacks, one site appears at the top of the list



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Thinking the unthinkable

ON MARCH 15, 2001, the Manila-based United Firefighters Association of the Philippines held a news conference to raise the alarm over the danger, they said, that the oil depots located in Pandacan, Manila posed to the public.

The complex, located on the southern bank of the Pasig River near Nagtahan Bridge, is maintained by the country's Big Three oil companies. It consists of large manufacturing and storage facilities for petrochemicals, connected by pipelines to refineries in Batangas province.

The complex is situated in a congested area, right in the middle of houses, hospitals, offices, recreation centers and churches. The firefighters recalled an accident that struck a liquefied petroleum gas manufacturing plant in Mexico City in 1984, and voiced their fears the accident could be repeated in Pandacan. In the Mexican incident, the LPG accidentally ignited and caused a "liquid-boiling, expanding vapor explosion" which killed 300 people instantly and injured 7,000 others. More than 300 people later died of burns and about 65,000 people were left homeless.

Group spokesperson Alvin Estrada said that compared to the Mexican plant, the Pandacan depots make for a more dangerous site: they make and store products such as aviation fuel, high-octane gasoline, diesel, kerosene, oil lubricants, grease, petroleum distillates, bunker fuel, additives, "and who knows what more."

"The implication of the possible impact in a catastrophe would proportionately increase with the number of facilities and the products they manufacture," Estrada said. "It should be stressed in no uncertain terms that the concoction, combination or chemical reaction of diverse volatile materials under extreme temperature is entirely unpredictable."

Another scenario is even more chilling: that of liquid fuel spilling onto the Pasig River and accidentally igniting, thus burning everything in its path. In 1999, the firefighters said, one of the pipelines connecting the depots to a refinery in Batangas was accidentally punctured in Muntinlupa City, causing about 220,000 liters of fuel oil to spill into a creek. The fuel ignited and caused the city's worst fire since World War II.

On August 19, in the wake of the Quezon City Manor Hotel fire, the association once again raised the alarm. A fire in the densely populated district of Pandacan could torch thousands of residents, and the fire would spread immediately within a three-mile radius of the depot.

More frightening than that grim possibility, however, is the reality that firefighters in Metro Manila are not equipped to respond to it, spokesperson Estrada said.

"Accidents will happen no matter how careful we are," he said. "The Pandacan depot is an accident waiting to happen. The repercussions are beyond imagination."

To prove that the government was indifferent, Estrada said that it has even allowed vendors to sell barbecue on sticks right outside the depot.

On August 31, Senior Supt. Rogelio Tumbaga of the Bureau of Fire Protection testified before a Senate panel that the Pandacan oil depots could cause "unimaginable" damage in the event of an accidental fire or a fire caused by "an act of terrorism."

In the worst-case scenario, Tumbaga said a fire at the oil depots would cause so much damage it will even spread to nearby Malacañang through the Pasig River. Tumbaga said the relocation of the oil depot should be considered urgently.

Culled from news reports by Christian Esguerra, Jerome Aning and Christine Avendaño

Talking points

LET'S begin with "production notes," as they are called in the movie review business. At the virtual last minute, we changed the focus of this week's page to reflect the post-World Trade Center landscape. The tighter-than-usual deadline, however, prevented us from using the expertise of at least one specialist—the head of a new counter-terrorism strike force organized by one branch of the armed services, who needed to course his commentary through the chain of command.

Mr. Estrada, our first *balik*-contributor, squeezed through however. He has gone on the record many times about the need to upgrade the capability of the national fire service. Since March 2001, he has also joined his group of Manila-based firefighters in drawing attention to the inherent danger that the complex of oil depots in Pandacan poses to the public.

The terrorist firestorm that erupted in the United States last week has given his group's message renewed urgency. Instead of painting the doomsday scenario one more time, however, he opts to talk about the geopolitical reasons for assuming a terrorist strike on the Philippines. "Terror groups that can no longer mount an attack as spectacular and as complicated as that on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon will choose new targets on the basis of expediency and economy," he writes.

These reasons are reinforced by practical considerations: "an ill-equipped military," an intelligence service that has been found "wanting." All these add up to the downright unspeakable: "The Pandacan oil depot complex is a terrorist's dream target. Located in a densely populated area, it would provide the opportunity to raise the maximum number of casualties. With the presence of petroleum products, it would provide the necessary high-impact explosion terrorists need for maximum psychological impact."

The day after the World Trade Center strike, Hollywood decided to put terrorist movies in production on indefinite hold, while wipe-out-US-landmarks action movies like "Independence Day" were taken out of regular TV programming. As a short-term measure, this decision is both sympathetic and necessary. But it would be a victory for terrorists if producers opt out of slam-bang terrorist-action plots permanently. Movies, like concerned citizens such as firefighters with foresight, allow us to think of the unthinkable. —*J. Nery*

The WORLD
LUVERNE B. GUECO, EDITOR

US fighter jets tried to intercept hijacked planes, official says

WASHINGTON—US fighter jets scrambled to intercept hijacked passenger planes used in this week's terrorist attacks, but apparently did not have enough time to reach their targets, an air defense official said late Friday.

"Ten minutes before the first plane hit the World Trade Center we received notification from the FAA that a plane had been hijacked," Major Mike Snyder, a spokesperson for the North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD).

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is the chief US regulator of the aviation industry.

As soon as word of the hijackings reached NORAD headquarters at Peterson Air Force Base in Colorado Springs, Colorado, fighter jets scrambled from bases in the United States to intercept the airliners, according to Snyder.

The spokesprson could not provide details about the number or type of the warplanes involved or which bases they flew from.

The jets streaked toward Washington and New York but apparently failed to reach their destinations in time.

"We had no idea that they were going to crash those planes and that certainly affects the time that we had to intercept," Snyder said.

NORAD normally relied on the Air National Guard to carry out its missions, according to defense officials.

According to CBS News, a total of five fighter jets took part in the attempt to prevent the tragedy.

Two F-15s flew out of Otis Air National Guard Base on Cape Cod, Massachusetts, while three F-16s took off from Langley Air Force Base in Virginia, the television network reported.

But a hijacked American Airlines plane slammed into one of the towers of the World Trade Center just two minutes after the warplanes took off, according to the report.

The Pentagon came under attack seven minutes after the fighters were dispatched from Langley, CBS News said. *AFP*

POPE John Paul II rests his head on his clasped hands during prayers to commemorate the victims of the terror attacks in the United States at the Pontiff's summer residence at Castelgandolfo, southeast of Rome Sept. 14. The Pope was extremely shaken by the attacks, which he had called a dark day in the history of humanity. REUTERS

Masood dies, leaves Taliban foes headless

ISLAMABAD—The death of Afghan opposition commander Ahmad Shah Masood will spark unease in Washington and Moscow as the United States examines a possible military intervention to root out alleged terrorists in Afghanistan.

It will also have far-reaching consequences for the civil war and the future of the opposition alliance in Afghanistan, where the ruling Taliban militia are long suspected of providing a safe haven for militant Islamists.

Ousted president Burhanuddin Rabbani said Masood died Saturday after a suicide bombing which he blamed on Pakistan, the Taliban and alleged terrorist Osama bin Laden.

In the first official confirmation of the veteran commander's death, Rabbani described him as a "national hero" who had martyred himself for "jihad (holy war) and resistance."

A spokesperson for Rabbani said Masood had died at 10 a.m. in a hospital in northern Afghanistan, after losing his last battle against injuries sustained in a suicide bombing last Sunday.

Coming just two days before Tuesday's devastating terror attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, the bombing has inevitably sparked rumors of a trade-off between the ruling Taliban militia and their "guest" Bin Laden.

The Taliban have already taken advantage of the former defense minister's absence from the scene and launched fresh attacks in the northeast and at the southern mouth of the Panjshir Valley, Masood's traditional stronghold. *AFP*

Life and death in the stairs of Trade Center

BY MICHEL MOUTOT

NEW YORK—Scrambling down 52 flights of stairs to escape the World Trade Center inferno, Ciara Linnane looked into the eyes of the first firefighters going up, and saw they knew they were going to their deaths.

Linnane, with AFP's financial news affiliate AFX, ran from her office in the center's north tower with two colleagues seconds after a hijacked commercial airliner hit the upper part of the building Tuesday morning.

"Around the 25th floor, the firemen began to come up. Those great big guys, big red Irish faces. They were carrying all that gear," she said in an interview.

The firefighters told the fleeing office workers: "You're OK, you're doing very well. Keep going down, you can get out, when you get to the lobby, just follow the directions. They really calmed us down, they were lovely," Linnane said.

"They looked terrified, so frightened. Jesus Christ! You could see the fear in their eyes, they looked really grim and frightened."

Linnane said she saw 40 or 50 firefighters, some fanning out into corridors in the doomed building, some going higher up the stairs.

"They all made eye contact with me, a lot of them were saying: 'you're OK, you're doing fine.'

"One of them stopped, looked straight into my face, and said: 'OK, you're doing really well. Make sure that everybody just keeps going, stay on the right, go as fast as you can. You will be able to go out, don't look back, just go,'" she said.

"When you think about the reality of us walking downstairs to get out of the building, to live, and those guys going upstairs to their death!" she said.

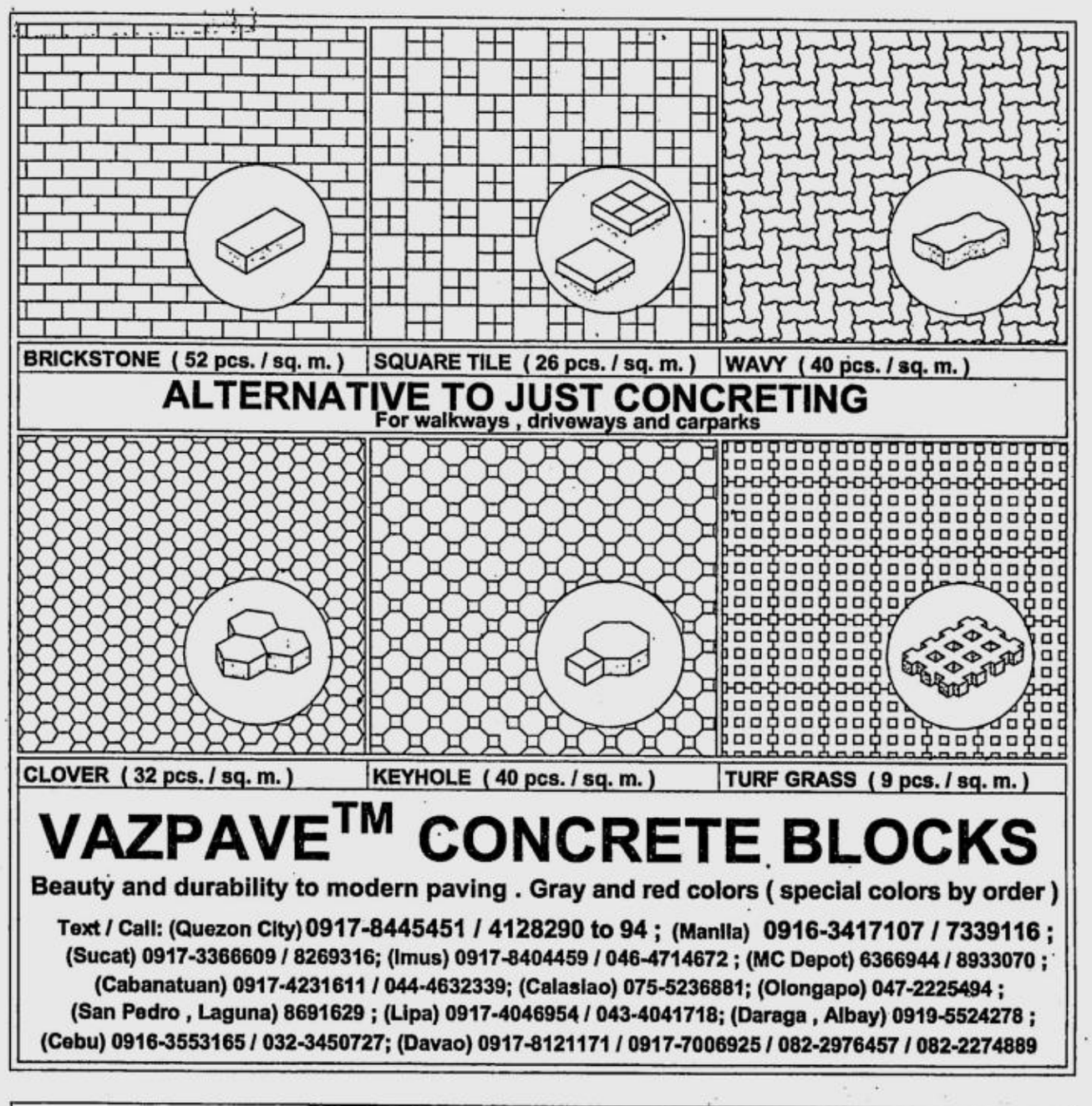
"They are more than heroes. They should have a day of mourning just for those firemen: a special day for them, and then a day for everyone else."

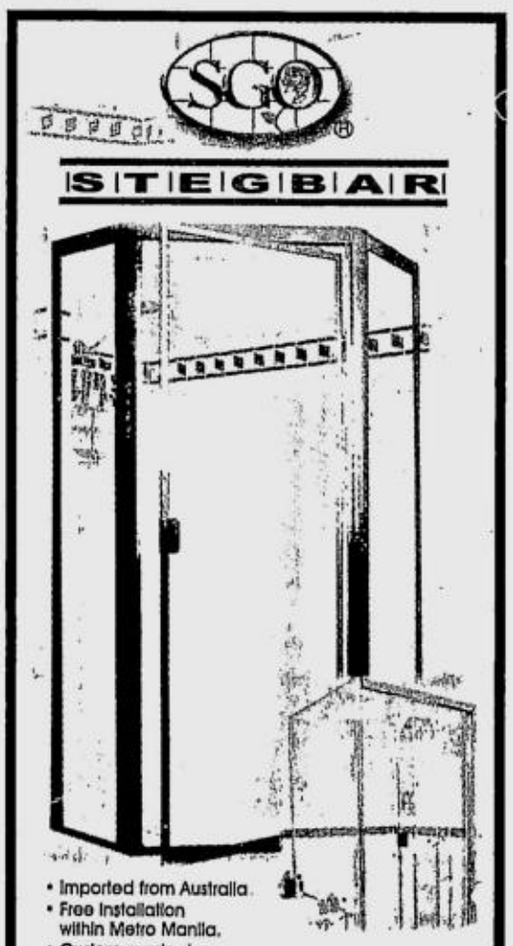
About 300 firefighters are missing, buried beneath the thousands of tons of rubble, all that remains of the 110-story towers which collapsed with sudden, terrifying speed an hour after they were hit.

"I knew the building was going to collapse, I just kept saying 'Thank you, thank you' and I kept thinking: 'Please don't do this, please turn back, come down with us.' But I didn't say a word, of course. They looked so scared.

"I can't help thinking that they knew. I could read it in their eyes," Linnane said.

Four days after the bloodiest act of terrorism in history, Linnane, 38, lights her cigarette with a trembling hand, and jumps at the sound of sirens nearby or fighter jets flying over Manhattan. *AFP*





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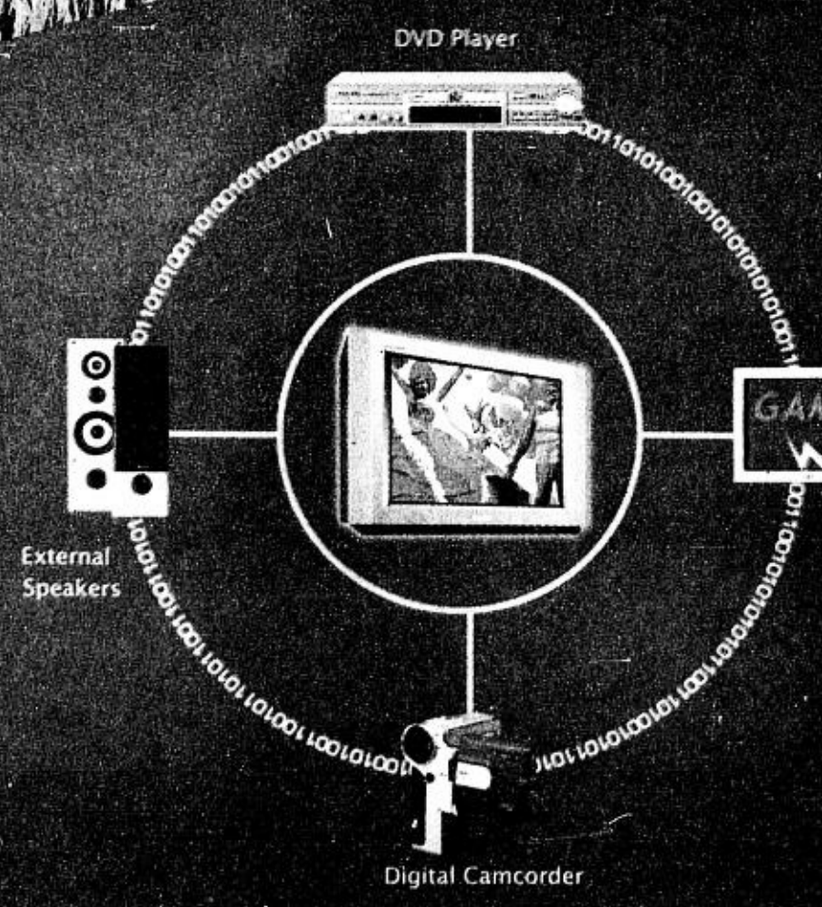

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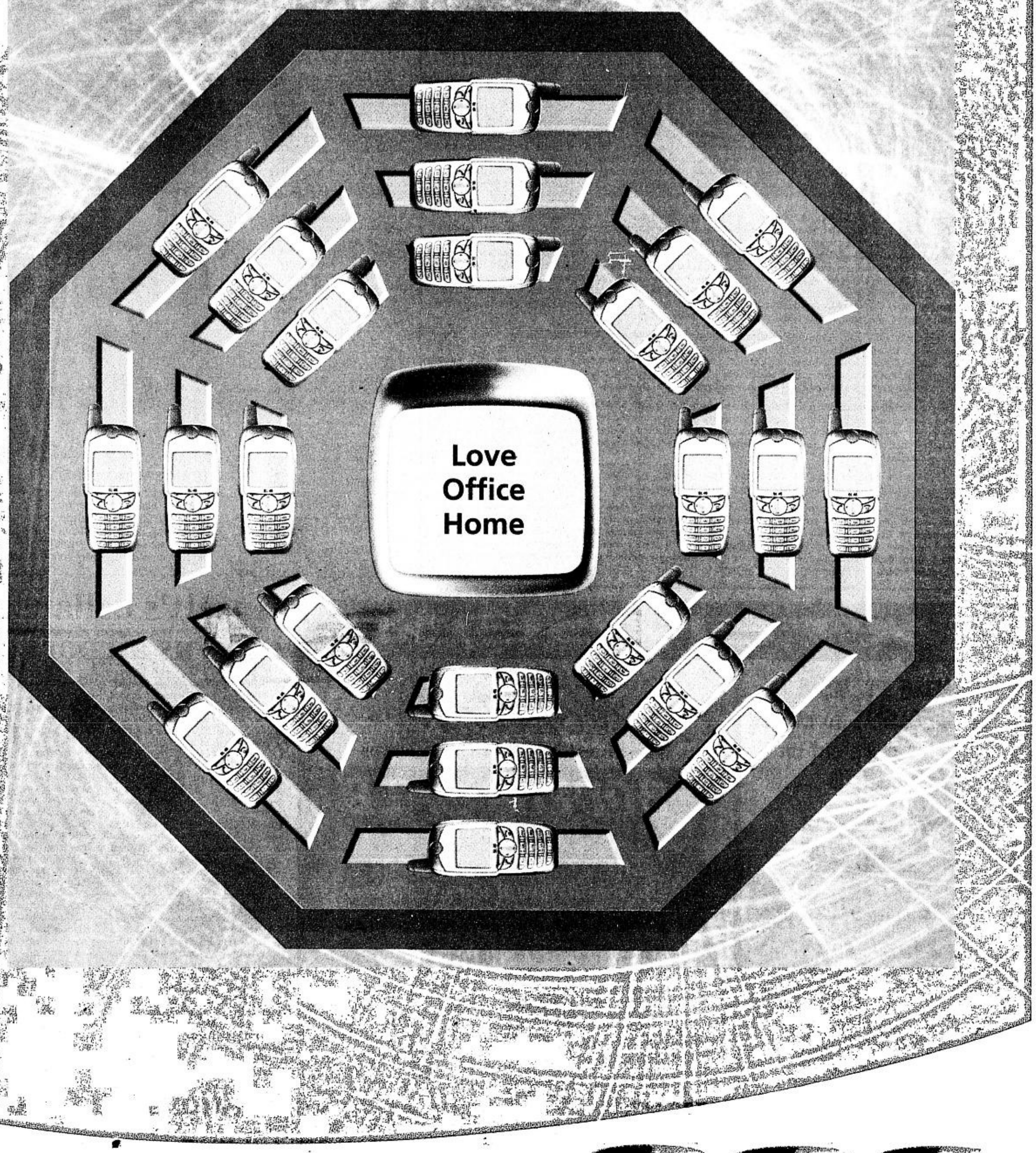

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Straightening out Celebrex Safety Issues:

Further data review deflates hype on reported drug dangers

By Mike Gomez

Medical specialists dispelled fears on the danger of using the popular coxibs for arthritis and pain. **The *coxibs also known as COX-2 specific inhibitors*,** the most popular of which is celecoxib marketed as Celebrex, are ***state-of-the-art medicines designed to effectively relieve pain without causing the undesirable side effects*** seen with the intake of traditional painkillers known as the non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs).

According to a leading rheumatologist, Dr. Sandra V. Navarra, many physicians ***advocate the use of the safer coxibs*** in their patients with arthritis or other forms of rheumatism especially if such patients would need treatment over long periods of time. Dr. Navarra stressed that it would not be prudent to prescribe drugs which may have risks of causing stomach side effects particularly when dealing with older patients since the occurrence of such side effects may prove catastrophic. The ***older NSAID pain relievers are associated with an increased chance of causing side effects related to the stomach*** like abdominal discomfort, ulcers and most importantly, bleeding from the stomach and small intestines, Dr. Navarra contended.

Although the new drugs are now the treatment of choice used, especially by the specialists to control pain in many conditions, the coxibs were recently criticized in media reports generated from a recently published article in the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) which was supposed to look at the cardiovascular safety profile of these drugs. Although the JAMA article acknowledged the acceptable safety profile of the first coxib marketed as Celebrex, it carelessly managed to raise some doubts on the cardiovascular safety of this popular medicine.

In the course of the examination of the ***JAMA article,*** Dr. Navarra – along with Dr. Oscar Cabahug, an assistant professor from the UERM Medical Center and regional consultant of Pharmacia, noted that the perceived danger was unfounded since it was ***based on an irresponsibly erroneous and invalid conclusion.*** They reasoned that the author of the JAMA article attempted to compare the heart attack rates of the drugs from studies using totally different populations. They contended that differences in terms of age, sex and baseline cardiovascular risks could by itself account for differences in heart attack rates when comparing different populations and should not be ascribed to a difference in the effects of the drugs used. Dr. Navarra remarked that "one must compare apples with apples, and not apples with oranges."

Dr. Cabahug explained that the ***JAMA article was not a new study*** as suggested in the media reports but rather a study that used data from other earlier studies. The author of the JAMA article took as baseline the heart attack rate of patients on placebo (an inactive compound which usually just contains starch or fillers) from an earlier article which contained a summary analysis (called a meta-analysis) of 4 individual studies comparing aspirin with placebo. They then used the heart attack rate of the placebo group in that trial and compared it to the Celebrex group of another study and the rofecoxib group of a third study. This method of comparison is not valid since ***it attempts to compare three completely different populations without standardizing or equalizing for the other factors*** (age and sex for example) that would alter the observed heart attack rates. This method of using historical baseline heart attack rates and comparing it to rates observed in another non-comparative trial (only one group of patients) or one of the groups of a comparative trial, would be *highly questionable* and is frowned upon in the clinical and research circles.

What the author of the JAMA article did not emphasize, according to Dr. Cabahug, was that in the Celebrex study called the *CLASS trial* (published also in the JAMA of September 2000) which was the source of the heart attack data used in the controversial article, the heart attack rates seen with the patients on Celebrex was no different from those seen with the patients taking either diclofenac or ibuprofen. Dr. Cabahug questioned the studies focused on Celebrex for heart attack rates when it could have instead concluded that ***diclofenac and ibuprofen had a higher heart attack rate compared to placebo.***

Dr. Albert Santos-Ocampo, a practicing rheumatologist and assistant director of the Medical Affairs Office of Pfizer, in addition pointed out that there is no evidence that Celebrex may produce hypertension any more compared to other NSAIDs as seen in all the previous clinical studies conducted on the drug. Dr. Santos-Ocampo further stated that in a well-conducted randomized trial comparing changes in kidney function among elderly patients, ***naproxen, another NSAID, had a significant decrease in kidney function compared to the patients taking Celebrex.***

Unfortunately, a less discerning media public has fallen into the trap of hyping up the invalid conclusions, even though *the authors of the controversial* ***JAMA article themselves admitted that their assumptions had significant limitations.***

Learned medical professionals in the Philippines have been able to see through the alarmist hype and the confusion wrought by this misleading article, and have chosen to continue prescribing Celebrex to their arthritic patients who are in dire need of such an effective but safe drug. Dr. Navarra finally commented that all the well-conducted studies done with Celebrex looking at risks of heart attacks have not shown any indication of even a slight difference in the risk of any cardiovascular event including heart attacks, on the other hand, recent studies have shown with certainty that the ***coxibs have indeed superior gastrointestinal safety profile compared to the older NSAID pain killers.***

ADVT.

Informal agreement reached on China's entry to the WTO

GENEVA—Negotiators reached an informal agreement early yesterday that effectively paves the way for China's accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO), the organization said.

"The working party on China's accession has concluded its work apart from some technical details on which rapid progress is underway," WTO Director General Mike Moore said in a statement.

"I fully expect the working party on Monday to make its formal recommendations to ministers, setting the stage for their approval at our ministerial conference in Doha (Qatar) this November," Moore added.

In November, trade and economics ministers from the organization's 142 member states are due to rubber stamp the tentative technical deal struck by China and its trading partners in Geneva.

Moore welcomed the breakthrough, which eliminates the most thorny issues that stood in the way of China's 15-year-long bid for membership.

"Negotiators from the member governments have worked around the clock and the results speak for themselves. We are very close to bringing China into the multilateral trading system," he said.

The US, China and European Union managed to find a compromise on access for foreign companies to the Asian giant's life-insurance market, diplomats said.

Jeffrey Bader, the US negotiator said: "The final result, which grew out of cooperation with the EU, resulted in language that preserves China's 1999 commitments to the United States, strengthens efforts to further open China's insurance markets, and includes specific reference to the principle of MFN (most favored nation) as underlying China's commitments to establishing insurance branches."

"The United States looks to China to honor these commitments," Bader added.

Ratification by Beijing would allow China to reap the benefits of the WTO's fair trade rules in 2002. *AFP*

TITANIC MEMORABHILIA AP

This undated picture of a deckchair from the legendary White Star Liners vessel the Titanic is expected to fetch up to £30,000 ($43,000) at an auctioneers in Devizes, southern England this September. Other Titanic items going under the hammer include a letter written on board, a reclaimed pin cushion and a cork plug from a lifebelt.

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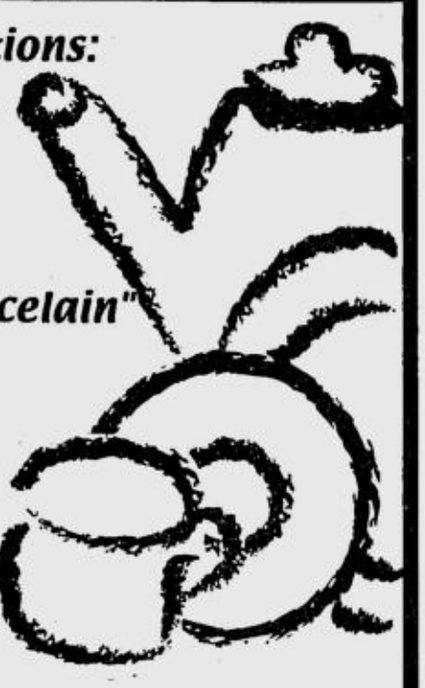

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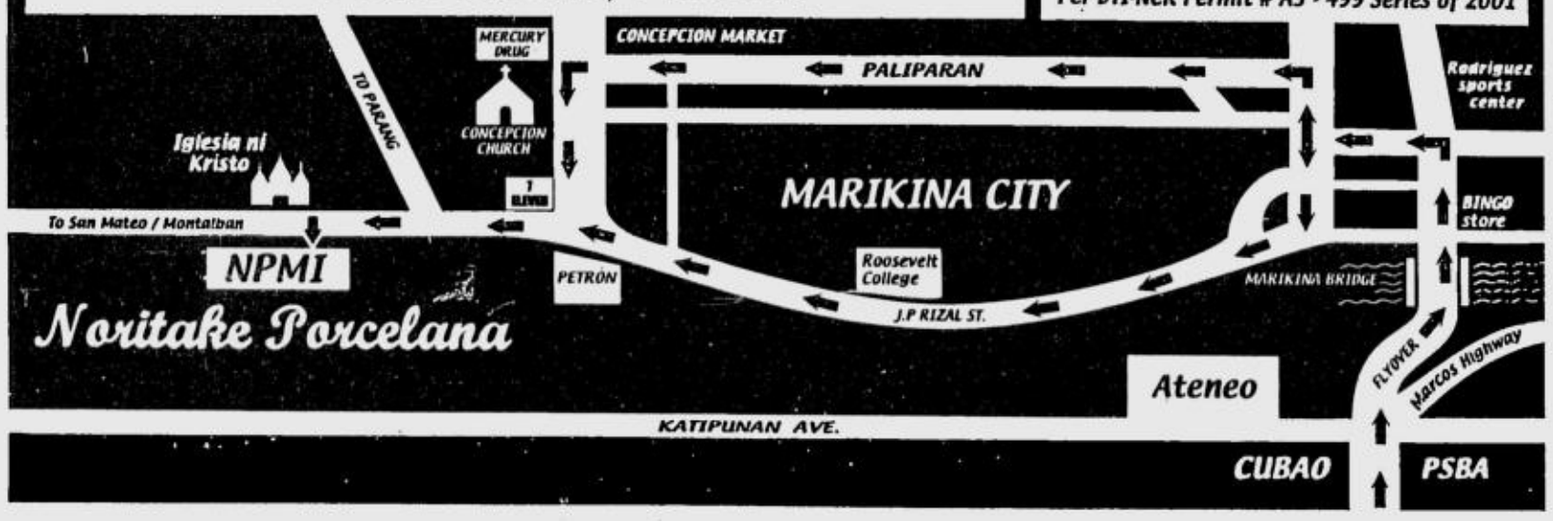

Ansett's collapse spawns airport chaos

MELBOURNE, Australia—Five Air New Zealand jets have been grounded here in a protest blockade by workers furious over the collapse of the airline's Australian subsidiary Ansett, airport officials said yesterday.

The blockade is part of a campaign by the Transport Workers Union (TWU) to force Air NZ to pay up to $200 million in entitlements to more than 16,000 Ansett staff thrown out of work.

A Melbourne Airport spokesperson said the aircraft had been grounded because of action by the TWU. "There are five Air New Zealand planes, which have been affected so far," he added.

Hundreds of TWU members, mainly aircraft refuellers and baggage handlers, have also been involved in a protest picket at Sydney Airport.

Unions on Friday staged a three-hour stopwork meeting that brought operations at Sydney's airport to a virtual standstill.

Then on Saturday Qantas baggage handlers placed bans on all Air NZ flights leaving thousands more passengers stranded in addition to the thousands affected already by the collapse of Ansett.

The travel plans of 45,000 people were thrown into chaos by the sudden collapse of Ansett, Australia's second largest airline.

Thousands of angry travelers continued to besiege the ticketing counters of rival airlines on Saturday.

Many were forced to wait in the terminals for more than 24 hours because rival airlines Qantas and Virgin Blue have been unable to cope with the increased passenger numbers.

The Australian government has threatened legal action against Air NZ, which is being blamed for the failure of the 65-year-old airline it took over completely only 15 months ago.

In addition, Australia's corporate watchdog has launched a formal investigation into the collapse.

The Australian Securities and Investments Commission said investigators would focus on whether or not Ansett continued trading after it became insolvent—an offense under Australian law.

Among the stranded passengers was NZ Prime Minister Helen Clark who was held up in Melbourne for five hours on Friday after her flight was prevented from leaving as angry Ansett workers placed towing vehicles and a set of stairs in its path.

The New Zealand government had to call in one of its air force jets to rescue Clark and get her back to Wellington from Melbourne. *AFP*

Taiwan's bid for UN membership foiled anew

BEIJING—China on Saturday hailed a decision by the United Nations not to consider a proposal to admit Taiwan, saying efforts by the island to push for entry were "doomed to failure."

China regards Taiwan as part of its territory, not as a separate state that should be granted UN membership. This was the ninth year in a row that China has successfully beaten back efforts by Taiwan's few diplomatic allies to push for the island's admission.

Wang Yingfan, China's UN ambassador, accused Taiwan of trying to buy its way into the international body.

"The Taiwan authority has spent much more money this year buying support from other countries but the result is clear to us all even before the debate," China's official Xinhua News Agency quoted Wang as saying. "Taiwan has been an inseparable part of China's territory since antiquity."

A committee of the UN General Assembly decided Friday, after long debate, not to include the status of Taiwan on the assembly's agenda, Xinhua said.

Foreign Ministry spokesperson, Zhu Bangzao, said Saturday that the rejection shows that the vast majority of UN member nations support the "one China principle"—Beijing's view that mainland China and Taiwan are one country.

"The Taiwan authorities' attempt to create 'two China's' or 'one China, one Taiwan' in the UN is doomed to failure," Zhu said.

China and Taiwan split amid civil war in 1949, when Mao Zedong's communists seized power on the Chinese mainland, forcing the ruling Nationalists to retreat to the island.

Taiwan's Foreign Ministry said Saturday that the island would continue to push for UN admission.

Beijing has not ruled Taiwan since 1949 and the island's 23 million people are entitled to representation in the international body, it said in a statement.

Taiwan's supporters argue that Taiwan is a free and democratic country with one of the world's largest economies.

Taiwan—under its official name, the Republic of China—was a founding member of the United Nations until 1971. It walked out of the organization just before other members voted to give its seat to the People's Republic of China. *AP*

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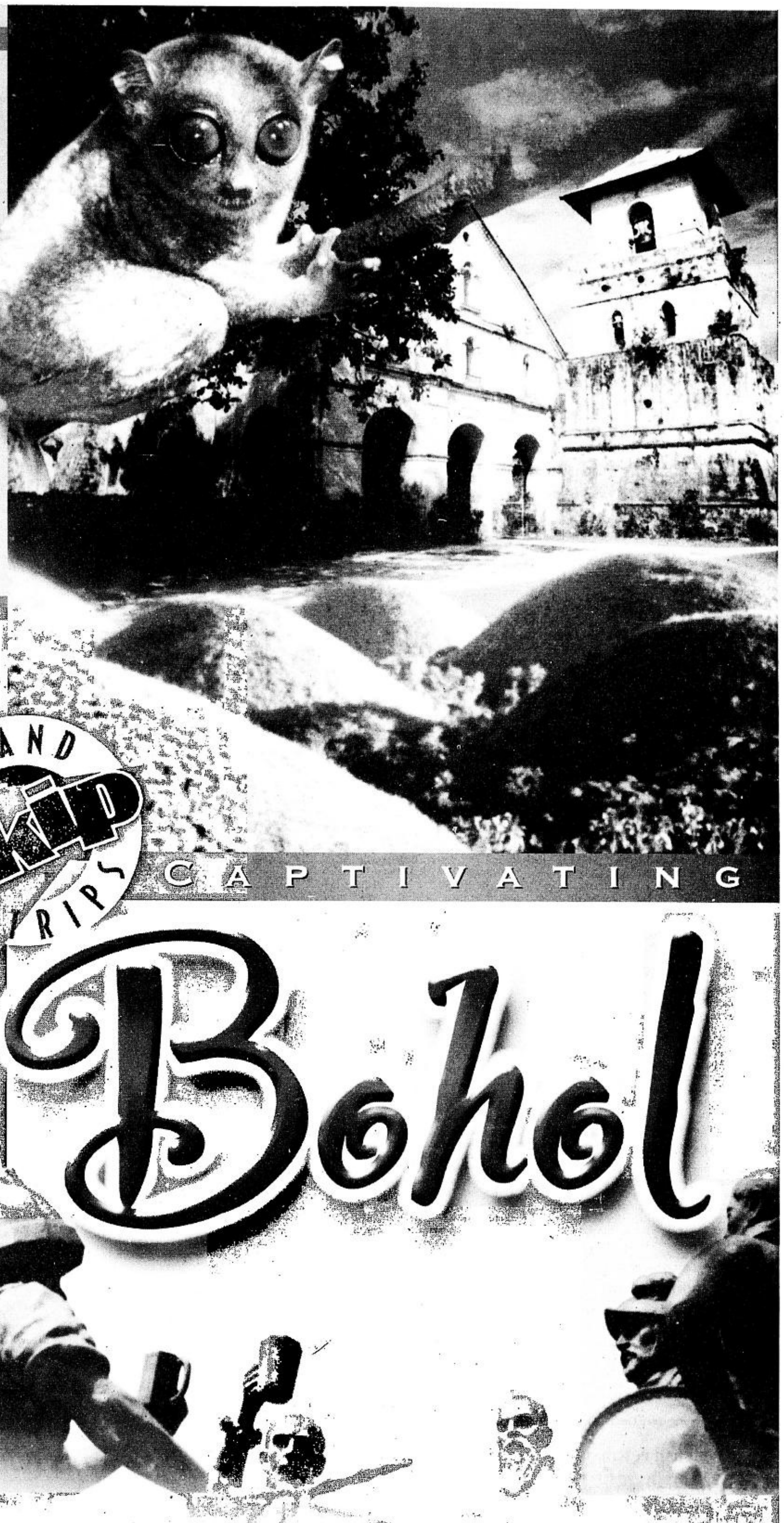

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WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Central and Southern Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to at times cloudy with isolated rainshowers and thunderstorms mostly in the afternoon or evening. SOURCE: PAGASA

Metro Manila	Partly Cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 24°
Baguio	Partly Cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 24°
Tuguegarao	Partly Cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 24°
Laoag	Partly Cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 24°
Clark Zone	Partly Cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 24°
Tagaytay	Partly Cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 24°
Legazpi	Partly Cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 24°
Calapan	Partly Cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 24°
Bacolod	Partly Cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 24°
Roxas	Partly Cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 24°
Cebu	Partly Cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 24°
Tacloban	Partly Cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 24°
Gen. Santos	Partly Cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 24°
Zamboanga	Partly Cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 24°
Cagayan de Oro	Partly Cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 24°
Davao	Partly Cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 24°

Compiled by: Armin P. Adina, PDI Research/09/14/01

Solon urges caution on US use of Clark, Subic airports

BY TONETTE OREJAS
PDI Central Luzon Desk

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—Sectoral Rep. Satur Ocampo urged caution to the request of the United States to use airports such as those in Clark and Subic for the refueling of American planes.

Ocampo said this would further expose the Philippines to retaliation by any party in the looming war against international terrorism.

"If there is that assumption that Americans will be vulnerable to attacks, utilizing Clark and Subic as refueling stations for American planes would magnify the danger of retaliation by any other party," Ocampo told the INQUIRER before speaking in the Central Luzon-wide human rights conference organized by the Karapatan.

Presidential spokesperson Rigoberto Tiglao, in news reports Friday, confirmed that the US formalized such request.

"We suggest that the government consider carefully the implications (of this request) to the security and welfare of the Filipino people. We have been warning about these possibilities in opposing the Visiting Forces Agreement that laid the ground for the continuous use of our airports and seaports in the absence of military bases," he added.

FILE PHOTO/EV ESPIRITU
OCAMPO

A Clark Development Corp. official, speaking on condition of anonymity on Thursday, also expressed the fear that the Clark International Airport was going to be used again for "military intervention."

Clark and Subic were used as staging areas for US troops involved in the Korean War in the 1950s, the Vietnam War in the 1960s and 1970s, and in the Persian Gulf War in the 1980s and 1990s.

Ocampo did not object to the use of Philippine airports as transit points for the possible evacuation of endangered civilians, which was one of the requests, saying this was a "positive, acceptable and necessary humanitarian mission."

But he also raised concern over the right to life of civilians in countries identified in the editorials of the New York Times and Washington Post as possible supporters of suspected terrorists responsible for the air attacks on the World Trade Center in New York and on the Pentagon in Washington.

These are civilians in Iraq, Iran, Libya, Syria, North Korea, Afghanistan and Pakistan. "These are a whole range of countries that if the US were to have its way and it would launch retaliatory attacks, we are forewarning that they should be very careful about using weapons for massive destruction," Ocampo said.

The Philippines, according to him, has its share of woes in human rights violations arising from government's counter-insurgency program under the Macapagal administration.

He said there has been an "alarming trend" of increasing incidence of human rights violations based on reports from organizations of civil libertarians. These cases, he added, necessitate a congressional inquiry.

In Central Luzon, the Karapatan documented 39 cases from January up to July. The incidents have allegedly victimized 686 persons, 325 families in more than 20 villages, the reports showed.

Sr. Conchita Valerio, Karapatan-Central Luzon vice chair, claimed that the perpetrators were mostly military personnel.

"These seemed to validate the pre-election statement of Col. Victor Corpus (Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines chief) that after the elections the military would pursue the Left," Ocampo said.

ROUNDUP

Caraga a misnomer?

CARAGA, Davao Oriental—Town officials, backed by church people, are seeking the help of Rep. Corazon Malanyaon (Davao Oriental, first district) in banning the use of Caraga in identifying Region 13. The region covers the provinces of Agusan del Norte, Agusan del Sur, Surigao del Norte and Surigao del Sur, and the cities of Butuan and Surigao. But the name Caraga belongs to this town of Davao Oriental, which belongs to Region 11 (Southern Mindanao).
Ferdinand Zuasola, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Classrooms for N. Cotabato

KIDAPAWAN CITY—Some P17 million in funds for the building of new classrooms was released to 13 elementary schools in North Cotabato. Sangcupan Eto, schools division superintendent, said that among the fund recipients were the Magsaysay Elementary School in Antipas, the Kibugtungan Central Elementary School in Carmen, the Pangao-an Central Elementary School in Magpet, the Calungsod Elementary School in Midsayap, and the Takepan Elementary School in Pikit. As in other parts of the country, the province suffers from a shortage of classrooms every year because of the growing number of enrollees.
Rosa-May de Guzman, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Free health services

COTABATO CITY—Free health services will be rendered to poor residents of North Cotabato starting Sept. 27 at the Diaz Memorial Hospital in Midsayap town. The program, which includes free consultation, treatment and surgery, is a project of the Maharlika Charity Foundation Inc., Rotary Foundation International and the provincial government. Mario Cacabelos, president of the Midsayap Rotary Club, said health specialists from the Davao Doctors' Hospital would conduct surgery. The provincial government has committed P300,000 for the project, which is also expected to benefit residents of Pigcawayan, Aleosan, Libungan, Alamada and nearby towns. *Charlie Señase, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Surrender feelers sent

MATI, Davao Oriental—A ranking leader of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front in the province has sent surrender feelers to military and local officials. However, Roy Lopez, the brigade commander of the MILF's Eastern Davao Revolutionary Committee, said the government must first release 31 Moro detainees suspected to be MILF rebels and who are facing murder charges. The detainees have been held at the provincial jail here since July last year. Maj. Alexis Gopico, commander of the Army's 8th Special Forces, said only the court could decide whether to release the detainees or not. *Ferdinand Zuasola, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Police officer promoted

PALO, Leyte—Senior Supt. Nardito Yoro, police director for Eastern Visayas, has been promoted to chief superintendent. He was among the 23 police colonels in the country who were promoted to generals. In a memorandum dated Sept. 10, Director General Leandro Mendoza, Philippine National Police chief, cited Yoro for his role in thwarting the May 1 siege on Malacañang by supporters of ousted President Joseph Estrada. *Cynthia Borgueta, PDI Visayas Bureau*

2nd San Carlos bishop

BACOLOD CITY—Papal Nuncio Antonio Franco on Thursday installed Msgr. Jose Advincula Jr. as second bishop of the Diocese of San Carlos City. Pope John Paul II appointed Advincula as bishop of San Carlos on July 23 following the retirement of Bishop Nicolas Mondejar. Advincula, 39, was ordained bishop on Sept. 8 at the Immaculate Conception Cathedral in Roxas City. Before his ordination, Advincula was the parish priest of Sto. Tomas de Villanueva in his hometown in Dao, Capiz. *Gerry Pagharion and Carla Gomez, PDI Visayas Bureau*

Ex-rebs get cash rewards

CATBALOGAN, Samar—Three former communist rebels on Monday received P64,000 from the government for turning over their firearms when they surrendered to Army officers last month. Alfredo Domanca received P54,000 for surrendering three M-16 rifles. Ronald Lomuntad was given P4,000 for turning over a Garand rifle, while Romeo Tablatin received P6,000 for yielding three .38 cal. revolvers. Brig. Gen. Romeo Dominguez, 8th Infantry Division chief, said the three New People's Army rebel returnees would use the money to invest in business so they can start new lives.
Cynthia Borgueta, PDI Visayas Bureau

7 drug suspects arrested

DAVAO CITY—Seven persons, including a soldier, were arrested for alleged drug pushing in a series of raids mounted by policemen in Digos City, Hagonoy in Davao del Sur and Compostela Valley on Friday. Arrested were Pfc. Danilo Aquino of the 25th Infantry Battalion, Rey Dineros, Perlita Villarmia, Peter Romero, Sem Dumagsa, Allan Gomez, and Rowel Alviso, all of Davao del Sur. Found in their possession were 21.83 grams of shabu (methampethamine hydrochloride), 5.2 grams of dried marijuana leaves, two homemade revolvers and assorted bullets, four cellular phones and P4,850 in cash. *Anthony Allada, PDI Mindanao Bureau.*

World's biggest tossed salad readied

BY FRANK CIMATU
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

BAGUIO CITY—To lift the world's flagging spirit and the city's tourism slowdown, Baguio decides today to toss everything—including a very big kitchen sink—for a salad.

It will not just be a simple tossed salad, El Cielito Inn's chef Abelardo Quiambao, 69, said. It will try to be the world's biggest salad ever tossed.

On Saturday, Quiambao and chef Pio de Guzman of the Baguio Country Club bought 430 kilograms of lettuce, 180 kg of carrots, 150 kg of cucumber, 150 kg of tomatoes and 50 kg of green and red bell peppers.

Corporate sponsors will donate the Thousand Island dressing. The salad will be presented at the Baguio Convention Center in a huge bowl made of galvanized iron. The Baguio Association of Hotels and Inns (Bahai), the salad sponsor, will feed more than 1,000 guests paying P20 each. The event will start at 9 a.m.

Fifteen stations will show the different steps in preparing the homogenous salad.

The Guinness Book of World Records for the biggest salad was a Caesar's prepared by chef Scott Blackberry at Salt Late City in Utah on Sept. 14 last year.

The Caesar's salad used 12 cases of romaine lettuce, 14 gallons of salad dressing, 20 pounds of parmesan cheese, five pounds of garlic, 40 loaves of croutons, and six tin cans of anchovies.

The salad fed 1,000 members of the Utah Five-a-Day Association.

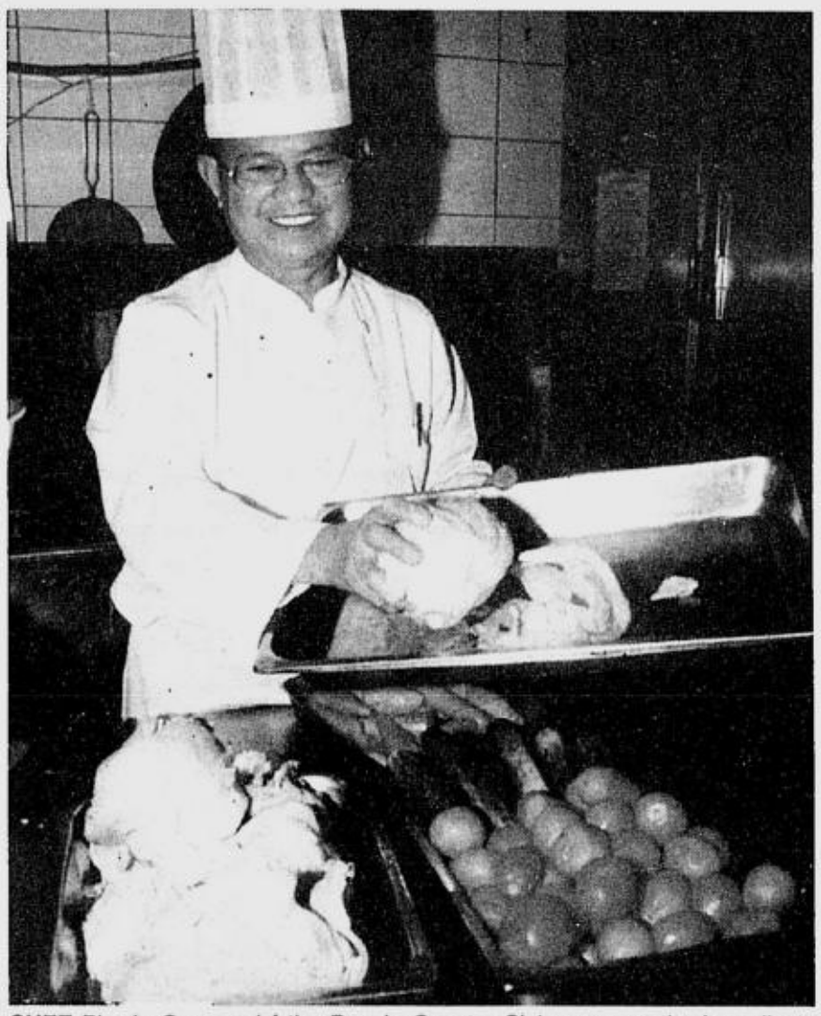
Quiambao said they can easily beat the record, but the organizers had no more time to prepare the documentation for the Guinness record.

"Never mind the Guinness, we dedicate this instead to the Baguio people," Quiambao said. "And anyway, this event will become a regular thing once Sunday's event becomes successful."

Quiambao started to work for the famous Alba Cocina Español in 1964 before working as chef for the Oasis Hotel in Clark, Hyatt Terraces in Baguio, Cebu Plaza and Coral Hotel in Cebu before returning to Baguio in 1997.

He said 50 interns would help him and De Guzman in slicing the vegetables on Saturday night.

"We may come up with the world's first giant tossed salad, but the intention is not to break the Guinness record. We just want to promote local tourism," said Jeannie Chan, Bahai spokesperson.


CHEF Pio de Guzman of the Baguio Country Club prepares the ingredients for a record setting tossed salad today. TOOTS SOBERANO

"Caesar's salad goes limp after 15 minutes and is not fit for a large serving," she said.

Guinness records usually wait for a year for appeals to break a new category. Since the only existing record for salad is a Caesar's, then for Baguio to get into Guinness, it has to make a Caesar's, Chan said.

She said it would take P100,000 to bring a Guinness representative to authenticate the salad. "We could spend that money to feed the guests instead," she said.

Chan also said Bahai paid P300,000 for the vegetables to be used. Corporate sponsors like Del Monte will provide the catsup; Dole, the toppings; and Kraft, the mayonnaise and Parmesan cheese.

To ensure the sanitation of the salad, the vegetables will be washed in an antibacterial bath twice.

Tourism regional director Purificacion Molintas said the salad event would be held in September to help bring in local tourists during the dip of the tourist season in the city.

The biggest salad event was supposed to have been held Sept. 1 during the city's 92nd Charter Day celebration.

It was in danger of being cancelled but Bahai decided to hold a hasty fund-raising campaign.

The event will also showcase the temperate vegetables that the city has been known for.

Army engineers to complete irrigation project

BY EDWIN O. FERNANDEZ
PDI Mindanao Bureau

COTABATO CITY—Alarmed by the delay in the completion of the Malitubog-Maridagao irrigation dam in North Cotabato, President Macapagal-Arroyo has directed the Army's 6th Infantry Division to allow military engineers to complete the P2.7-billion project.

"I want this project completed very soon," the President said during her recent visit to General Santos City.

The dam is about 80-percent complete. It is scheduled to be inaugurated by Ms Macapagal on Sept. 30.

The 512th Army Engineering Brigade based in Maguindanao will take over the last phase of the project once the China Import-Export Technology Inc. (Citec) completes the first phase it contracted with the National Irrigation Administration, according to 6th ID spokesperson Maj. Julieto Ando.

Ando said the President also directed the Army engineers under the supervision of Brig. Gen. Roy Kyamko, 6th ID chief, to complete the Sarangani-Sultan Kudarat coastal road.

"We will start at where the private contractors ended their work due to the peace and order problems," Ando said.

"We are elated that the President has listened to our humble request to let the Army engineers complete the dam so that nobody, no armed group, organized or lawless, could harass and hamper the project," North Cotabato Gov. Emmanuel Piñol, told radio dxND in Kidapawan City.

Completion of the dam in Barangay Kebines, Carmen, North Cotabato, has been hampered by extortion, harassment and kidnapping of workers.

A Chinese engineer working for the project has remained in captivity along with a Chinese-Filipino trader from Davao City.

Zhang Zhung Yi, 35, an engineer of Citec, and Edwin "Sonny" Lim were seized on Aug. 12 while negotiating for the release of Chinese engineer Zhang Zongquiang.

Zhang Zongquiang was kidnapped on June 20 and his captors had asked for a $4-million ransom. During an initial payoff of P8 million in Datu Paglas, the kidnappers, led by Tahir Alonto and Abu Hamsa, seized four more victims.

On Aug. 20, Army operations resulted in the rescue of one Wang Zhungli, but the kidnappers killed Zhang Zongquiang and Xue Xing.

Efforts to rescue the remaining hostages in Maguindanao continue.

Originally scheduled to be completed in 1996, the Malmar Dam project will irrigate 25,000 hectares of land in Carmen and Pikit towns in North Cotabato, and Pagalungan town in Maguindanao.

In 1994, construction was suspended when Moro Islamic Liberation Front rebels held hostage seven engineers and workers of the Seoul-based Shinsung Corp., the original contractor.

It was again delayed when the government launched an all-out war against the MILF last year.

Solon withdraws school merger bill

BACOLOR, Pampanga—Pampanga Rep. Francis Nepomuceno has ended the anxiety and protests his bill has generated over the impending closure of the country's oldest vocational school in this lahar-ravaged town.

In a "gesture of sensitivity and concern to our people's rights and welfare," Nepomuceno withdrew House Bill No. 714, which seeks to integrate the Pampanga Agricultural College (PAC) in Magalang town and the Don Honorio Ventura College of Arts and Trade (DHVCAT) in Bacolor town into a Diosdado Macapagal State University.

He said the merger, which he proposed last July 5, drew "opposing but constructive views" from his fellow legislators, educators and provincial leaders.

But even after Nepomuceno officially notified Roberto Nazareno, secretary general of the House of Representatives, in an Aug. 20 letter expressing his desire to pull out the controversial proposal, PAC president Zosimo Battad denied the existence of the bill.

Battad made the denial in response to an INQUIRER story on the opposition to the merger.

Nepomuceno told Nazareno he was instead refiling a bill converting the PAC into a state university. *Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

'EXODUS' PROTEST

Heirs press Silliman land claim

BY ALEX V. PAL
PDI Visayas Bureau

DUMAGUETE CITY—"This land is ours."

Inspired by the lyrics of the classic song, "Exodus," six clans of the descendants of the original owners of what is now Silliman University property are pressing for compensation for the land.

They claimed that the American missionaries defrauded their great-grandparents 100 years ago.

Calling itself the Exodus, the clans have been holding mass actions near Silliman since January.

The mostly elderly claimants have been holding vigils outside the university gates. They lighted candles along 25 meters of the road.

Posted on the university fence were streamers accusing the university and its founders of landgrabbing.

Sitting on some 60 hectares of prime real estate, Silliman is probably as big as Dumaguete's commercial district.

The Exodus claims the land title of Silliman, particularly Lot No. 941, is fake because it lacks signatures and bears several erasures.

Silliman, on the other hand, maintains that the land titles are in order. It has challenged the Exodus to bring their case to court.

Alumni and students expressed the same view as the university celebrated its centennial last month.

With a claim worth several billions of pesos, the filing fee for such a court case would cost the claimants well over P50 million. This forced most of the claimants to demand an out-of-court "settlement" with the university and to limit their courses of action to street protests.

Descendants of one Eugenia Ceriales, however, filed a case with Regional Trial Court Branch 33 over a portion of the land which the university has turned into an archery range. The case has remained pending with the court.

About 35 male members of the Ceriales-Viliran clan, led by Elias Viliran, entered the campus on Sept. 9 and occupied the archery range.

Attempts by the university to convince them to leave, even with the threat of arrest for forcible entry, have so far failed.

The Exodus members said they would only move out if the university could present a land title for the area with Silliman's name on it or if the court would order them to do so.

Meantime, the clan members sleep in a tent at night and sit around the area at daytime.

University security officer Al Bolodo said the men had been allowed to go home for their personal needs and return to the archery range to resume their protest action, "to prevent unnecessary friction."

Silliman lawyers are set to file a case of trespassing against the Exodus.

INQUIRER Mindanao
JUN BANDAYREL, Editor ■ NICO A. ALCONABA, Bureau Chief

Ex-child rebel defends her captors

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo meets former New People's Army member Jelyn Dayong during a visit to Cagayan de Oro City early this month. FILE PHOTO/DENNIS SABANGAN

BY BUTCH D. ENERIO
Cagayan de Oro City

IN DEFENSE of her captors, a guerrilla-turned-government scholar said most of what she was told about the military were not all true, and that front organizations helping the communist movement actually deceived her into believing that the government is nothing but evil.

Jelyn Dayong, now 19 and a high school sophomore, said her fears about the military being vicious, as what she was told while she had been with the communist New People's Army, were all gone.

She now accepts the fact that there is more to learn than fighting the government.

Dayong was recently asked by journalists in Cagayan de Oro City for her reaction to denunciations of the Karapatan, an alliance of groups advocating the advancement of people's rights, about military abuses allegedly committed in four villages in Salay, Misamis Oriental.

These (charges) "were nothing but propaganda to discredit the government's effort in helping the poor communities," she said.

Joel Virador, secretary general of Karapatan, said in Davao City that like other child rebels in military custody, Dayong was being used in the propaganda war against the communist movement.

Fact-finding mission

"If that is her experience with the military, we hope that she will not be blinded to see the larger picture, of what is really happening in the communities," Virador said.

Karapatan, which spearheaded a fact-finding mission in Salay on Aug. 20-21, alleged that poor farmers in Barangays Alipuaton, Ili-ilihon, Tinagaan, Burial and Matampa "were subjected to illegal arrest, detention and investigation, if not coerced to confess membership in the NPA."

It further reported that the residents were "water-cured," physically and psychologically tortured, divested of their properties and farm animals, and their houses razed by Army soldiers of the 9th Infantry Battalion.

Military officers have denied the allegations.

Dayong was recruited to the NPA when she was 13 and started to carry a firearm at 15. She was captured by government troops after she and her 19 comrades were ambushed in Sitio Baglamag, Barangay Perdida, Alegria, Surigao del Norte, on Feb. 16, 1999.

Nine of the rebels were killed and the rest were able to escape.

Dayong was hit in the pelvic bone and left leg. She was brought by the military to the Caraga Regional Hospital in Surigao City, and was transferred to the Army hospital in Camp Evangelista, home of the 4th Infantry Division, where she recuperated.

Complications

Dayong described Karapatan, one of the organizations that came and visited her while she was confined at the Army hospital, as a group of people who wanted to take and "liberate" her from the hands of the Army.

But she said she later found that the group's intention only complicated her life and that of her family.

When she was confined in the hospital, members of Karapatan went to her parents in Agusan del Norte to break the news about her condition.

"What Karapatan told my parents was that I was being held as a prisoner in isolation in the Army hospital despite my critical condition, and only nurses can enter my room," Dayong said.

She claimed that Karapatan tried to "poison" the minds of her parents into believing that her condition was worse because she was being tortured as a way for the military to extract information from her about the rebel movement and identify their leaders and the location of NPA camps.

"My parents were urged by Karapatan to take me out of the hospital and away from the military," she said, "because once I get well, the military officers will ask me to pay them for their help."

They will "use me against the NPA and, later, I will be liquidated . . . for them never to see me again," she added.

Because of the false impression that her parents got from the Karapatan members, "contrary to her experiences in the hands of the Army," Dayong said she and her parents had quarrels that made their lives miserable.

"It took me a lot of efforts to convince my parents, who are illiterate, that my condition in the hands of the military was not what they thought it was and that what Karapatan told them were all lies," Dayong said.

She said that the intentions of Karapatan were good "only on the surface, because their strategy to win people to take their side is by employing intimidation and deception that make the innocent people react in an unlikely manner. Like what they did to my uneducated parents."

Thinking beyond Bin Laden: Peace building

BY SAMIRA ALI GUTOC

WILL there be a World War III? Did Nostradamus predict right when he said that an enemy would arise to challenge the Great Superpower? Is this enemy a Muslim? Will there be a clash of civilizations between the West, led by United States, and the East, led by the Muslim "world" (or even China or India)?

As the World Trade Center saga pointed at a defining moment in American history, Filipino analysts of mass media and workers of nongovernment organizations gathered in Manila to work on "less political" concerns, such as peace, religion and value formation.

Led by the Asian Institute of Journalism (AIJ) and sponsored by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (Unesco), the roundtable discussion carried the theme, "Bridging Peace: Searching for Commonalities between Muslim and Christian Filipinos."

Centuries-old gap

Did you know, for instance, that circumcision of the newborn is a ritual common to both Islam and Christianity? Women in Islam also undergo such ritual, but it is not mandatory for them.

Describing the history of Muslims and Christians in the Philippines as "conflictual" because of colonization, speakers from the academic and religious sectors agreed on many commonalities that can help bridge the "centuries-old gap" between the two faiths.

In setting the course of the discussions, peace worker Luis Lacar, a professor of the Mindanao State University in Iligan City, posed the question:

Why is it that the coming of Islam, which precedes the coming of Christianity by at least 300 years, has been excluded in the discussion of "nation-building?"

The Moros have perceived this as a basis for their struggle toward nationhood (*bangsa*).

Taking a more aggressive stance, lawyer Soliman Santos stated that the Christian perspective with respect to Islam reflected Christian Filipino "intolerance" toward Muslim Filipinos rather than the other way around.

This is because of the lack of peace education in schools and other "structures," he reasoned out.

Human Rights Commissioner Nasser Marohomsalic cited the "lopsidedness" in the distribution of political power that has led to the grievances of the Bangsamoro people.

In response, Florangel Braid of the AIJ said the media have to start educating the youth and their practitioners about peace and intercultural diversity in the country to instill "mutual respect and understanding."

Prof. Wadja Esmula of the University of the Philippines' Institute of Islamic Studies cited the holding of the forum as timely, more so as suspicions prevail that those behind the Sept. 11 terror attacks in the US were Muslims.

Esmula noted the United Nations' declaration of the present millenium as the "International Year of Dialogue Among Civilizations," as proposed by Iranian President Mohammad Khatami, a Muslim.

"It is people, not religions, that cause upheavals of the world because of bigotry and zealousness," he said.

Former Maguindanao Rep. Michael Mastura cautioned that in searching for common grounds, uniformity should not be the goal.

Fusion

Recognizing that there is strength in plurality and diversity, Santos instead proposed a "fusion" of civilizations and that dialogues be fostered, added Esmula of the UP Movement for Muslim-Christian Dialogue.

Esmula, citing the Islamic teaching of respect for other cultures, quoted the Q'uran: "If thy Lord willed, He could have made mankind one people. O Mankind, we created you from a single male and female, and made you into nations and tribes that you may know each other (not that you may dispute each other)."

Violence cannot be invoked unless for self-defense, he added.

Following are the commonalities or distinctions between Islam and Christianity as presented by the speakers:

- **Peace.** Islam was derived from the Arabic word *salam,* which means peace, whether as a way of life, ideology, a code of law, a system. "Whosover killeth a human being . . . it shall be as if he had killed all mankind." (Q'uran)

"Pax Christi is the peace of the New Covenant and new creation . . ., salvation and reconciliation."

The Philippine Constitution provides a "regime of . . . peace," "renounces war as instrument of national policy . . . and adheres to the policy of peace."

- **Morality in government.** In Islam, public office is a duty and trust (*amanah*) from God. According to the Philippine Constitution, public office is a public trust. Officers are accountable to the people.

Guarantees

- **Human rights.** In Islam, human rights are granted by God; the moral stress is on performance of duties instead of demand for rights.

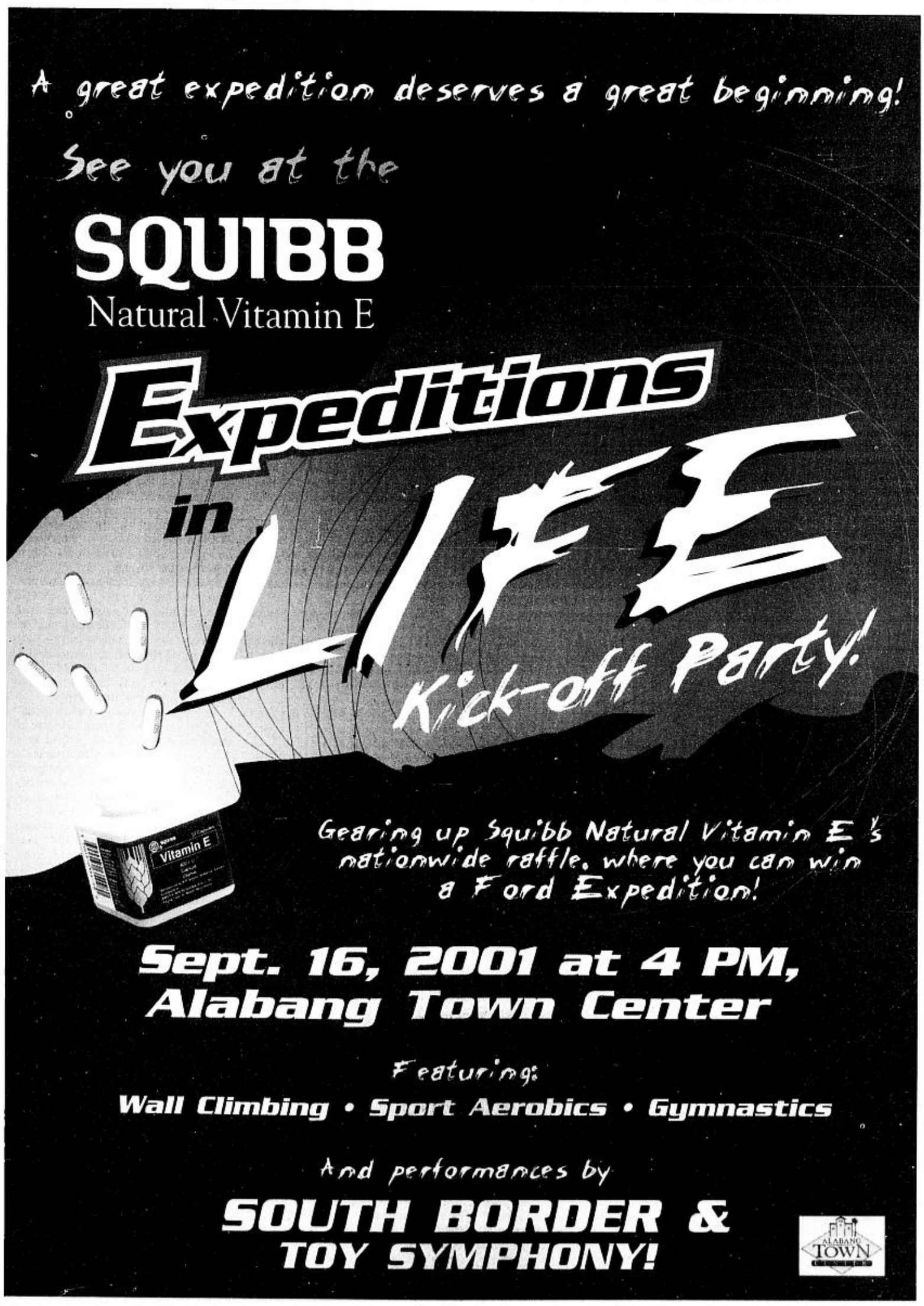
The State's policy is to value the dignity of the individual, guaranteed by the Bill of Rights.

- **Religious freedom.** In Islam, "let there be no compulsion in religion" (Q'uran). The Constitution guarantees "the free exercise and enjoyment of religious profession and worship without discrimination or preference shall forever be allowed."

The forum participants acknowledged that present thinking has focused on the differences between Muslims and Christians.

"One doesn't come to a dialogue, bringing his doctrine," said Esmula as he warned against "never-ending" debate on religion.

Values of peace and tolerance are universal, the participants said, and the step starts now.



'Today we mourn, tomorrow we avenge'

(From page A1)

cord, New Hampshire, called out the names of loved ones missing or hurt in the destruction. Outside, a crowd softly sang "Amazing Grace."

In Shanksville, Pennsylvania, several families of victims killed in the crash of hijacked United Airlines Flight 93—one of four planes to crash Tuesday—came to a memorial service in the village church there.

At the Oklahoma City National Memorial, the site of the 1995 bombing of the Murray federal building, several hundred people sang "God Bless America" under an American elm that survived the blast.

The bells in Bristol, Tennessee, tolled for fallen firefighters.

"The feeling I personally had all week, I guess you could describe it as a five-pound weight hanging from your heart, pulling on it," said Gary Madden, Bristol's deputy fire chief.

In sight of Allah

"There is a time for peace and a time for war," thundered Imam Mohammad Gemeaha during his sermon before a packed assembly at a mosque in the heart of New York City.

"Nowhere is it written that there is a time for terrorism."

In the first row was United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan, who heard Imam Gemeaha declare: "To kill an innocent person, just one person, in the sight of Allah, is more dangerous than the destruction of this universe."

New York police on Friday imposed tight security outside the elegant rose-colored mosque, barring traffic from all streets around the contemporary marble structure.

But that did not discourage the faithful—businessmen in suits, Africans in traditional robes and young African Americans in track suits—from filling the vast prayer space.

"I don't come very often, but today it is important," whispered an elderly man of Egyptian origin as he trudged slowly through the rain.

Also present were representatives of other faiths, such as James Morton, an Episcopal priest, who came to show solidarity with his "spiritual brothers and sisters."

"There should be some Jews to pray with the Muslims, who are as scared and innocent as anyone," added Matt Weiner of the Inter-religious Center of New York. He was wearing a yarmulke, a skullcap worn by Jewish men at prayer.

In Texas, Sayeed Siddiqui, president of the Islamic Society of Greater Houston, addressed his comments at a memorial service to "fellow Americans," saying, "God help us fight hate and change it with our hearts filled with compassion."

The Imam at the Washington Islamic Center said nearly 1,000 people came for Friday prayers. He said he told those gathered that the objective of Islam "is to establish peace."

NATIONAL day of prayer and remembrance is held at the Gesu Catholic Church in Miami, Florida. AP

Sad flag

In San Francisco, a record 6,500 people packed—and spilled out of—the multi-denominational Grace Cathedral in the Nob Hill neighborhood.

On the Las Vegas Strip, several marquees that usually advertise entertainers' names instead featured flags with the message "God Bless America" or "One Nation Under God."

A racially mixed crowd sat in silent prayer at the Metropolitan African Methodist Episcopal Church, a traditionally black congregation, in Washington.

In Chicago, nearly 5,000 people lined one of the main roads leading out of the city Friday evening with candles in paper bags and thousands of large and small US flags.

Earlier in the day, 10,000 people came to an inter-denominational service in downtown Chicago. At one point during the gathering, "you could have heard a pin drop. There was not a sound, you could hear the wind blow through. It was unbelievable," Anne Reusche said, who attended service.

But the thousands of flags adorning buildings, cars, buses and lawns across the United States gave her pause. The attacks in New York and Washington have "made our flag sad, I see flags now and they make me sad."

Vigils

Midday services gave way to vigils in the evening. A widespread Internet message urged people to light candles and "show the world that Americans are strong and united together against terrorism."

At dusk, the flicker of candles illuminated city streets, as people answered the call: all over New York, in Boston, in Birmingham, Alabama and elsewhere.

The Los Angeles suburb of Studio City, California—home to many actors and Hollywood executives—saw miles of people holding candles along its main street Friday night.

On Manhattan's upper west side, hundreds met at a Mexican restaurant that had advertised the event in fliers in Spanish and English earlier in the day. People cheered and sang as military jets flew overhead.

"I've been in the house for the last three days in shock. This is my first day out," said Millie Cintron, a Wall Street worker who saw the World Trade Center twin towers collapse.

People wore their patriotism creatively. A woman stitched American flags to her vest, then headed to a noon Mass in Newark, New Jersey. Office workers there carried small flags in shirt pockets. Others wore sweatshirts with stars and stripes.

'Tomorrow we avenge'

On the Mexican border, US customs and immigration agents stopped traffic going into the United States for one minute to commemorate the victims.

The University of Georgia at Athens was among many campuses where bells chimed at noon and students observed a moment of silence.

Charlie Thompson, a law student at the school, urged others to look to a "higher power" for answers.

But at Los Angeles radio station KPFK-FM, deejay Barry Smolin hosted his weekly Friday night rock music show in a less prayerful mood, fearful of what lies ahead should the US take military action against the terrorists, as it has vowed to do.

"This is an adversary we don't even know how to find, much less fight," he said. "We are a dinosaur trying to chase down a snake. In that contest the snake usually gets away."

And around the country, others were more consumed by anger than sorrow.

"Today we mourn," read one sign along the route of Bush's motorcade in the capital, the Washington Post reported. "Tomorrow we avenge." *Reports from AP, AFP*

Americans raring to go to war, surveys show

(From page A1)

retary of State Colin Powell and Vice President Dick Cheney.

One adviser described the huddle as "so high-level, top-secret" that even presidential counselor Karen Hughes and senior strategist Karl Rove were not participating.

There was no indication, however, that retaliatory strikes against countries harboring terrorists were imminent. "We're in for the long haul," said White House spokesperson Ari Fleischer.

Afghanistan's Taliban rulers, who harbor Saudi exile and international terrorist Osama bin Laden, seem convinced they will be the first targets.

The Taliban said on Saturday they might attack any neighbor that gives assistance to US strikes on their country, the Afghan Islamic Press reported.

The threat followed apparent agreement from Pakistan, Afghanistan's neighbor and the main backer of the Taliban, to assist in the US-led war on "terrorism," though Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf has issued no response to a US request for help in hunting down Bin Laden.

"We are ready to pay any price to defend ourselves and to use all means to take our revenge," a spokesperson for the Taliban's supreme leader Mullah Mohammad Omar told Agence France Presse by satellite phone from the Taliban stronghold of Kandahar.

"Now they (the US) are indicating in clear words that they are going to strike," the spokesperson said.

War mentality

Some conservatives have been pressuring Bush for a formal declaration of war, arguing it is the best way for him to show his—and America's—muscle, an administration official said.

Bush has rejected that thinking. But he has, with increasing frequency and volume over the past three days, minced no words.

"We are at war," he told rescue workers in New York Friday. He was using his weekly radio address on Saturday to prepare the nation for what lies ahead, advisers said.

"The people who knocked these buildings down will hear (from) all of us soon," Bush told rescue workers who chanted "USA, USA" as he visited the mounds of rubble that once were the World Trade Center.

"I heard their anger. Our response will be one that is justified," he said later.

One rescuer who shook Bush's hand asked about the President's wife and twin daughters, both college students.

"Freaked out, the girls are," Bush replied. "Wife's OK. She understands we're at war—got a war mentality. And so do I."

Polls

Polls taken by ABC-Washington Post, CBS, CNN-Time Magazine and NBC all reflect the huge margins favoring a strong military response and backing Bush.

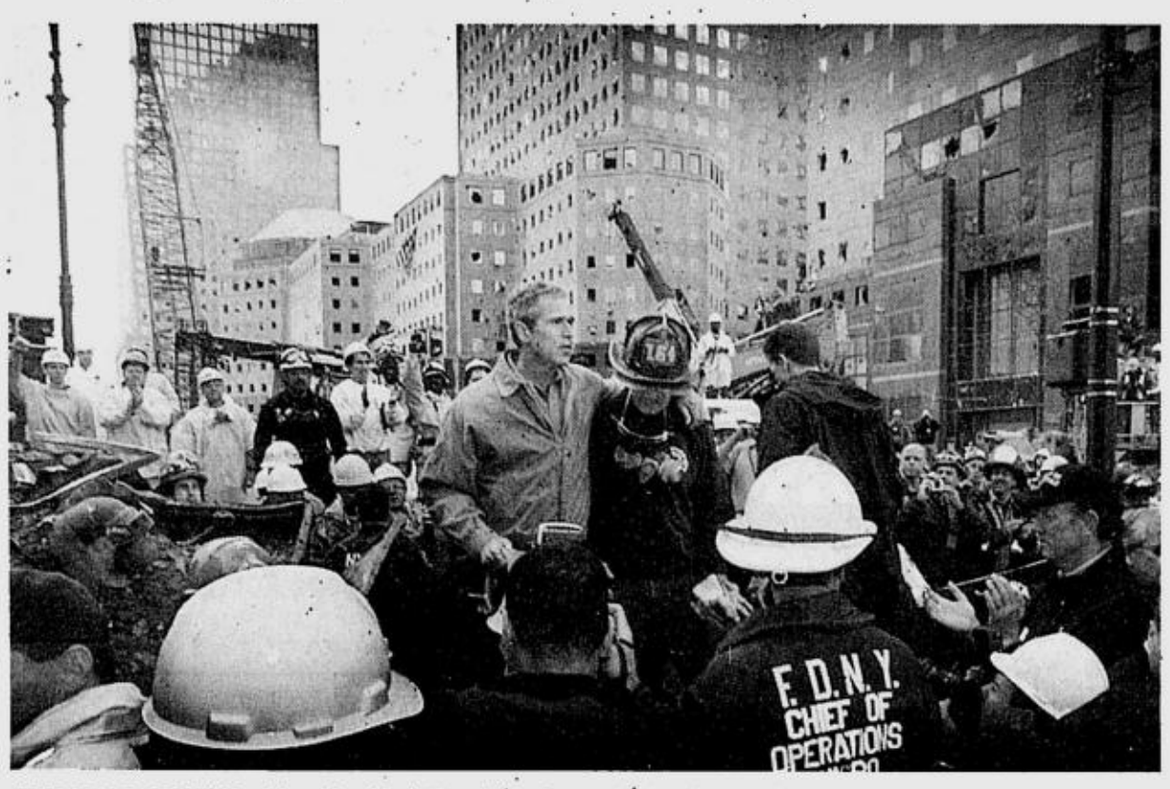
The polls taken in the days since the suicide attacks had error margins of plus or minus 3 to 4 percentage points.

Seven in 10 said they favor a military response even if it should result in a long war that causes a high number of US military casualties.

By more than a 2-1 margin, people said they were more concerned that the country would underreact, not overreact. Some, however, want the US military response to be carefully targeted.

"I hope our response is measured," said one respondent. "I don't see where you can go in and carpet-bomb a country."

"We've been pretty naive as a people," said insurance worker Joseph Richmond of Tampa, Florida. "But we've gotten our wake-up call."



MORALE-BOOSTING visit to New York, President George W. Bush sees the devastation but also beholds hope, and feels stronger. AP

Pressure

Secretary of State Colin Powell this weekend stepped up pressure on the Taliban, which has refused to hand over Bin Laden, who is also suspected in previous attacks on US interests.

"To the extent that you are providing havens to organizations such as the one headed by Osama bin Laden . . . you need to understand you cannot separate your activities from the activities of perpetrators," Powell warned.

Pressing ahead on the diplomatic front, Powell garnered Arab support from Saudi Arabia, Morocco and Tunisia as he pieced together a global coalition to go after terrorists wherever they may be hiding.

Russia signaled its readiness to back US air strikes on suspected terrorist bases in Afghanistan but said it would neither take part in a possible ground offensive nor let Nato troops be based in former Soviet republics.

And despite robust US rhetoric, Nato Secretary General George Robertson said Friday there would be no "mindless revenge," adding Washington had not yet contacted the alliance with requests for help on a retaliatory offensive.

'Fury of hell'

Troops are patrolling the streets of Washington, D.C., for the first time in recent memory while fighter jets sweep overhead and naval warships guard the nation's coasts.

"Our responsibility to history is already clear: to answer these attacks and rid the world of evil," Bush said at the memorial service.

By a vote of 420-1, the US House of Representatives late Friday approved a resolution authorizing Bush to use force against those responsible for Tuesday's strikes.

Short of a formal declaration of war, the measure gave Bush the green light to strike both individuals and nations he determines "planned, authorized, committed or aided the terrorist attacks."

"We are coming after you—and the fury of hell is coming with us," Rep. Charles Norwood, a Georgia Republican, raged before the House voted.

The lone dissenter was California congresswoman Barbara Lee, a Democrat who urged her colleagues to "think through the implications of our action today so that it does not spiral out of control".

"Some of us must urge the use of restraint," she said.

The US Senate passed a similar measure unanimously earlier in the day, by a 98-0 vote, giving Bush authority to strike back at those involved in Tuesday's attacks.

"This has been a historic day, and what has been quite a historic week," said Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle, a Democrat from North Dakota, after the Senate vote.

Earlier, in a unanimous 96-0 vote, the Senate approved a $40-billion supplemental aid package requested by the President to tend to the crisis wrought by the terrorist attacks. The House passed this measure late Friday 422-0.

In a statement, Bush said he was gratified "the Congress has united so powerfully by taking this action. It sends a clear message—our people are together, and we will prevail."

Another black box

A worldwide probe continued on Friday as the Federal Bureau of Investigation released the identities of the 19 hijackers who carried out Tuesday's attacks.

Many were identified as citizens or residents of Middle Eastern states friendly to the United States, such as Saudi Arabia or the United Arab Emirates. Some were qualified pilots.

No arrests had been made by late Friday, though one person was detained as a material witness, the FBI said.

FBI chief Robert Mueller said agents were chasing more than 36,000 leads in the investigation. The Treasury Department, meanwhile, said it was forming a task force to root out the sources of funding for terrorist groups.

In Washington, Mayor Anthony Williams lifted the state of emergency he had declared for the nation's capital following the attacks.

An FBI spokesperson said the discovery by search crews of the cockpit voice recorder in Pennsylvania raised the possibility further details would be learned of the drama on board.

She said the device was located 8 meters below ground and had been sent to Washington for review.

Highest honors

Pennsylvania's two US senators said the 45 doomed passengers and crew of the hijacked airliner that crashed near Pittsburgh could be awarded America's highest civilian honors after apparently thwarting an attack on a US landmark.

Among Americans, the thought of war has stirred a mix of emotions.

On a street corner in downtown Washington, Jose King fearfully pondered the future as military policemen directed traffic.

"It's scary," he said. "It feels like something is going to happen anytime, like they're not telling us everything."

Military recruiters reported increased interest in the armed forces, while saying it was too early to tell if that would lead to more recruits. *Reports from AP, AFP, Reuters*

'My eyes have seen the glory'

(From page A1)

crushed skeleton of a fire truck and held a small American flag high as fighter jets roared overhead and the devastated downtown site rang with chants of "USA! USA! USA!"

"Thank you for your hard work," he said through a megaphone. And rescue workers and volunteers on the brink of breakdown from exhaustion pumped his hand and slapped his back.

The emotional meeting with their leader done, they went back to their gruesome work.

But another day of rescue efforts offered little respite: no new survivors found, 124 bodies recovered, a total of 184 confirmed dead and more than 4,700 missing.

One rescuer found the body of a flight attendant, her hands bound, The New York Times reported Saturday.

Another worker told the newspaper that he had found the remains of people strapped to what seemed to be airplane seats.

Only five people have been pulled out alive, along with more than 400 body parts, since two hijacked jetliners toppled the World Trade Center's 110-story towers on Tuesday.

Among the missing are 23 New York police officers and hundreds of firefighters. Among the dead found so far were 13 city and one New Jersey firefighters, three Port Authority police officers and two emergency medical technicians.

Driven

Exhausted but driven, hundreds of volunteers slogged their way through tons of rubble that became a mammoth mud pile following thunderstorms that began hours before dawn Friday.

"Everyone's going to be cold and tired, and it's unsafe," Jim Robets said as he waited to go back into the rescue site on a flag-festooned flatbed. "But this is our city. Nobody takes it."

Cranes and bulldozers were picking away the heaviest pieces of what's left of the World Trade Center, but the real work was being done on a smaller scale: rescuers with plastic pails, toiling in the muck and stink.

As the hours wore on, it became disturbingly clear that finding the victims was going to take a long time. And much of the work was going to be done by hand.

Human chains—firefighters, police, National Guard members, construction workers and doctors—passed empty buckets into holes in a breathtaking pile of rubble. Somewhere inside, helped by search dogs and flashlights, were rescuers looking for bodies and survivors.

The pails re-emerged, each carrying a few chunks of debris.

So far, more than 10,000 tons have been removed, a tiny fraction of the skyscrapers' ruins—a combined total of 220 stories of gleaming steel weighing some 1.25 million tons, plus an unknown number of surrounding structures.

Cold and numb

Working 12-hour shifts, and sometimes double that, rescuers found things turning worse in Friday's downpour.

"You're cold, your hands are numb, the steel is slippery," said Jesus Agosto, 40, a construction worker who volunteered from New Jersey.

Jerry Shike, who also works in the construction industry, volunteered from Connecticut. The muck, he said, was "just making things very difficult."

"You've got to move slower," he said, and negotiate "a million little pieces of this and that."

Wind or rain aside, workers said they were driven by hope, no matter how often that hope was dashed.

"I was saying to myself, 'Give us some sound. Give us some sound,'" said volunteer Fred Medins.

But each time someone thought they heard a faint cry for help, he said, it would turn to nothing.

City officials have turned away hundreds of volunteers, saying they had as many as space would allow. Still, some wait for hours at the rescue workers' staging area, hoping for a chance to help.

The rash of bomb threats in the city—averaging around 100 a day, compared with seven on the day before the attacks—brought an arrest Friday of a man who allegedly told police there was a bomb in a junior high school, Police Commissioner Bernard Kerik said.

Kerik said several people had been arrested for using phony identification or pretending to be volunteers, then committing crimes in the cordoned-off disaster zone.

And Mayor Rudolph Giuliani said a phony telemarketer was soliciting contributions for a nonexistent fund to help the families of victims.

"We'd really like to catch them and make an example of them," the mayor said. *Reports from AP*

RP novena seeks solution to terrorism

(From page A1)

we assert our determination to conquer the forces of terrorism," the President said in Naga City at her arrival from Japan. "Believing in the positive through prayers, I call on all our countrymen to go to churches, mosques and other places of worship . . . to pray to the Almighty for the victims and help the world end this scourge of terrorism."

Masses in Philippine archdioceses and dioceses nationwide will be celebrated today in different languages and dialects, but these will be focused on one prayer—to preserve a shaky peace and avert a global war.

In a letter earlier sent to his brother religious, Archbishop Orlando Quevedo, president of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines, acknowledged "the global tension brought about by the terrorist attacks" in New York and Washington and the possibility of armed retaliation by the United States.

Quevedo urged the Catholic faithful to pray more intently for peace at this time of international conflict.

The CBCP also called for daily Masses and sacrifices for peace.

A novena that started yesterday, the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows, asks that the victims of the attacks find solace in the love of God; that those plotting violence against others turn to the Lord; that all nations unite to find a just and lasting solution to the problems giving rise to terrorism; and that "the God of justice, peace and love reign among us."

In Puerto Princesa, the city government yesterday observed a moment of silence and a vigil for the victims of the terrorist attacks.

Mayor Dennis Socrates personally appealed to his constituents to pray for peace and for the safety of those still buried in the rubble of the World Trade Center in New York.

In one of the first Masses for peace at the Edsa shrine, Bishop Socrates Villegas, spokesperson for Manila Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin, called on the American people to "seek the guidance of the Lord and learn from the lessons of the past" and realize "the uselessness of terrorism."

The National Council of Churches in the Philippines, the country's largest organization of Protestant churches, called on the faithful to pray for a peaceful resolution of the looming international conflict.

The militant Promotion of Church People's Response, on the other hand, urged the international community to express its disapproval of the planned US military action. *With a report from Jofelle P. Tesorio, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Filipina, volunteer marry amid tragedy

(From page A1)

the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

The couple helped an effort that logged more than 62,000 worried phone calls.

On Friday, Paul MacIntosh and Monique Fernandez Yaptenco took a break and got married.

The bride wore a fuschia-colored, nylon Lycra T-shirt by Calvin Klein and a lace garter pulled just above the knees of her dark gray slacks.

The groom's hunter green fanny pack was belted securely over his jeans.

The couple exchanged vows in a crowded hallway at a public TV station where the pledge-drive phone banks were converted for the missing-person effort.

Watching in a hush were 100 or so new friends, mostly volunteers who had been strangers 48 hours earlier.

"Out of this tragedy, they have the courage to refuse to set aside their decision to confirm their life and love," State Supreme Court Justice Diane Lebedeff said at the hastily planned ceremony.

Like so many others, the couple's plans were shattered by Tuesday's attacks.

MacIntosh, a software engineer from Thornton, New Hampshire, and Yaptenco, a Philippine-born New Yorker who works as a secretary at the United Nations, intended to marry Friday at City Hall before a few relatives.

They had planned to visit the New York Aquarium then go kayaking in Vancouver, British Columbia, on their honeymoon.

Instead, amid a city in chaos, they worked for a day-and-a-half to build a computer database. While 200 others answered phones, they logged into the computer precious bits of information on missing victims—by Friday's count more than 4,700—from handwritten forms.

"Everything was on paper. Now there's a way to organize the paperwork," said Red Cross spokesperson Devera Lynn, with a grateful nod to MacIntosh.

When the couple left reluctantly Thursday evening to get some rest, their new friends stepped in to help organize the wedding ceremony.

A bakery—found an hour and half before—donated the four-tiered vanilla cake. The bouquet was made of bright pink roses and babies breath.

For best man, MacIntosh turned to Jeff Henigson, a volunteer from Pasadena, California.

"Hey Jeff, I need your help," he said, holding up two gold wedding bands. "Best man?" *AP*

Europe reflects on bitter war ahead

PARIS—Europe fell silent for a moment on Friday. In part, people mourned victims of terror across the Atlantic. Even more, an Old World that had seen it all, from Hannibal to Hitler, sensed something awful in the wind.

"War" is no casual metaphor on a continent where mighty neighbors have fought one another for a century at a time, where anyone over 60 has a living memory of war.

But always before, people knew whom they were fighting. Now a loose world alliance must determine how to fight shadowy forces marbled into its midst.

Western strategists know that striking blindly and quickly to "deliver a message" may bring momentary comfort at home but would likely further the cause of their foes. Terrorism aims to provoke exactly that.

The strategists also realize that unless they make swift progress in breaking down cells in which terrorists hide, they will look impotent to billions of people in a world of constantly shifting loyalties.

America will rally a coalition, as in the Gulf War. Then it was different. Americans knew their enemy was a faraway dictator, yet they were divided over the reasons why. Now they can't identify the enemy, but the "why" is deadly clear.

As stunned Europeans sort out their own emotions, most look to America for guidance. In today's small world, many have friends or relatives across the ocean with whom they compare thoughts.

There is, for instance, Randy and George Gollub, a couple who live near Boston with their 4-year-old son. The debate that divides their household, relayed by phone to a friend in Europe, reflects today's reality across the Western world.

Randy, a brain specialist, teaches and researches at Harvard. She wants the West to go after terrorists the way doctors excise a tumor: carefully, deliberately, and completely.

George, a radio advertising executive, wants action. America should bomb, fast and hard. For him, any country shielding terrorists is fair game.

In the Old World, mixed moods are also tempered by 2,000 years of learning things the hard way, and a past century of world wars that shattered cities and killed millions. A majority prefers the surgical approach and even that, many feel, might fall short.

Beyond calls for outright war, some in Europe and America are already venting their rage on any likely victims close at hand. Such obvious injustice only worsens the conflict, increasing tension at a perilous time.

Too complex

Real life in the third millennium is just too complex for any sort of simple answer.

France's population of 59 million, for example, includes 4 million Muslims. A few, especially in seething slums near the big cities, may fit the terrorist profile. The vast majority, however, are simply workaday Frenchmen.

Any discrimination singling out "Muslims" or "Arabs" would not only target innocent people from a score of nations but also Frenchmen whose fathers and grandfathers died in earlier wars defending France.

Europeans, who live close to the Middle East and in general spend more time than Americans thinking about a larger world, worry that any kind of mass military action is bound to get important things wrong.

And those for whom names like Afghanistan or Osama bin Laden have intimate meaning are even more worried.

Michael Barry, a French expert on Islam who ran a clandestine clinic for Doctors of the World in Afghanistan when Taliban pioneers first fought their way to power, warns the West of falling into a trap.

"I believe Bin Laden and his friends deliberately seek new strikes on Afghan soil, a landing of American troops to engulf and bleed the main Western power, as was done to the Red Army," Barry wrote in the daily Liberation.

Larger picture

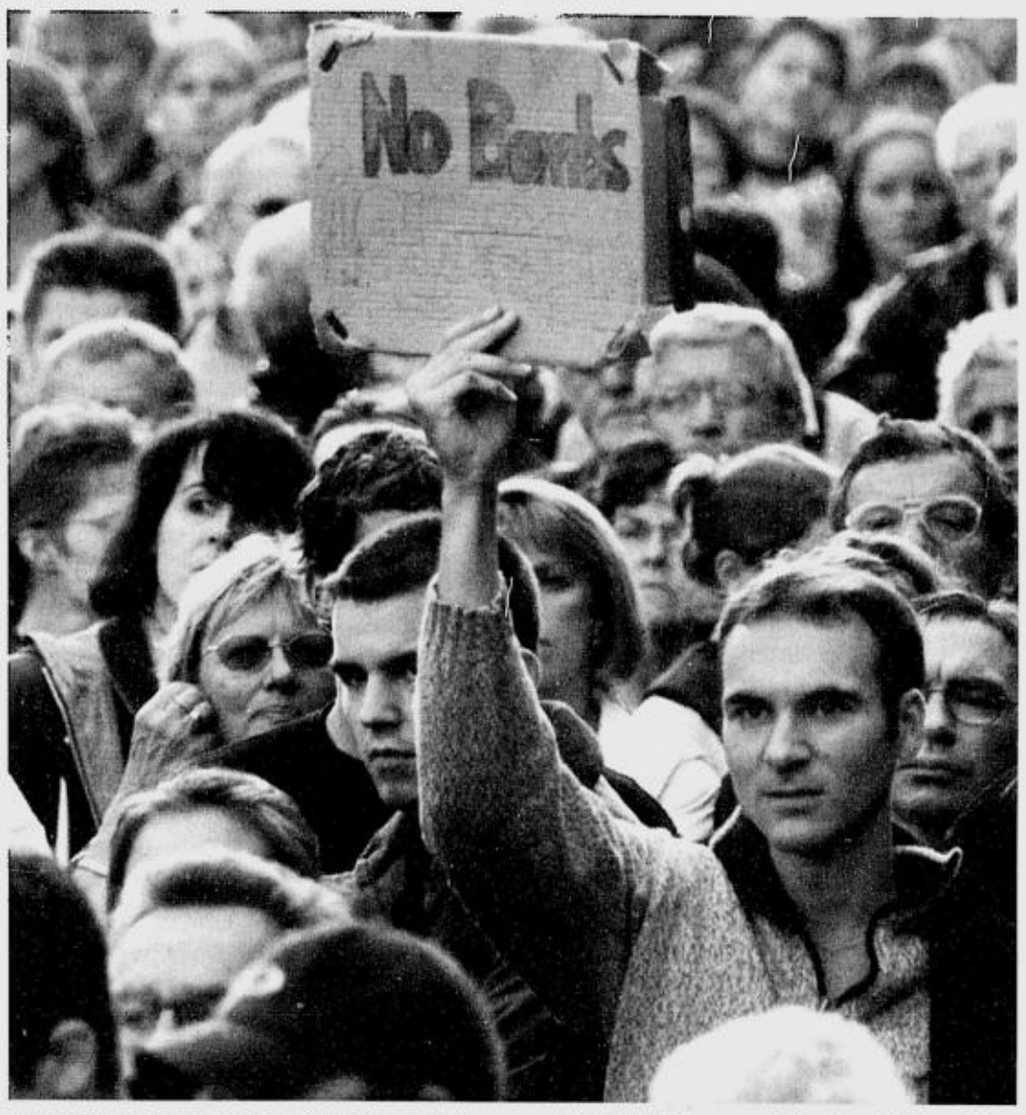
And there is the larger picture. Any assault on a Muslim nation by non-Muslims would be seen as unjust invasion by an Islamic world traumatized by the last two centuries of Western intervention in its affairs, Barry wrote.

He said it was no coincidence that Tuesday's attack came as Palestinians felt growing despair in the West Bank. This, he said, creates "an absurd link" in many Muslim minds between Taliban precepts and the Palestinians' fight against Israel.

That is one informed analysis, and there are others. Some question the Americans' resolve to stay in for the long haul, when body bags came home at an alarming pace. Others fear that misguided actions might turn friends into foes.

What all have in common is that nothing is simple. Any military action, no matter how well planned or seemingly justified, could backfire calamitously.

These realities are fresh in European minds. They know war is not just hell, but it is also extremely complicated. *AP*



AMERICA, you are not alone, is the theme of the crowd of 200,000 Germans at the Brandenburg Gate except for the lone protester who asks for restraint. AP

Saddam urges Americans in open letter to learn from Iraqi suffering

BAGHDAD—Grief-stricken Americans should not wage a "new Crusade" against Muslims and Arabs, rather learn from the pain Iraqis and Palestinians have been suffering at the hands of the United States, President Saddam Hussein said on Saturday.

"Just as your beautiful skyscrapers were destroyed and caused your grief, beautiful buildings and precious homes crumbled over their owners in Lebanon, Palestine and Iraq because of American weapons used by the Zionists," Saddam said in an open letter to the American people, citizens of the West and their governments.

The Iraqi leader warned of a "new crusade" by the United States and its supporters against "an Islamic country." He was apparently referring to Afghanistan, ruled by the radical Taliban and which the United States accuses of harboring the prime suspect in Tuesday's terror attacks, Saudi Arabian millionaire Osama bin Laden.

"If you rulers (from the United States and the West) respect and cherish the blood of your people, why do you find it easy to shed the blood of others including the blood of Arabs and Muslims?" according to Saddam's statement, which was read by a television broadcaster and followed by footage of U.S. warplanes bombing Iraq during the 1991 Gulf War and Israeli soldiers shooting at Palestinian stone throwers.

"Americans should feel the pain, which they have inflicted on other peoples so that when they suffer they will know the best way to treat it (the pain)," Saddam's statement said.

Ten years after the Gulf War, Iraq is still shackled by US-supported and UN-imposed sanctions, which Saddam claims have been responsible for the death of 1.5 million Iraqis.

Saddam questioned those countries who have rushed to condemn the terrorist strikes on New York and Washington, asking would they respond in the same way if the attacks had been carried out against Arab or Islamic countries by forces from the West.

He said international security could be obtained if the United States "became rational . . . and disengages itself from its evil alliance with Zionism."

Iraq, like other Arab nations, believes that the United States is biased toward Israel in its conflict against the Palestinians.

In Cairo, Iraqi Trade Minister Mohammed Mehdi Saleh denied any Iraqi involvement in Tuesday's attacks, adding that the "destruction inflicted on Iraq by US and British warplanes far exceeds the destruction in New York and Washington."

US and British planes patrolling no-fly zones in northern and southern Iraq regularly attack Iraqi military and radar installations. Iraq says the strikes often hit civilian facilities. *AP*

Fidel Castro, Buddhist monks . . .

(From page A1)

In Finland, cabbies pulled to the side of the road, and in Iceland, fishermen stood in silence at the Reykjavik docks.

French President Jacques Chirac stood at attention in front of a military honor guard at the Elysee Palace in Paris, and the Republican Guard played "The Star-Spangled Banner."

Most European nations observed a three-minute silence in the morning or at noon as banks of floral bouquets swelled outside American embassies.

In Serbia, an exception, authorities called no period of mourning.

In Greece, many observed three minutes of silence, but others continued their argument that America had brought this evil upon itself through its political and military actions.

Many Greeks hold Washington responsible for a litany of regional troubles that runs from the Greek civil war in the late 1940s to the bombing of Yugoslavia two years ago.

But in Warsaw, more than 2,000 people carrying candles marched in the rain to the US Embassy, where they left candles and flowers.

Many banners read "America, we are with you."

In Austria, church bells rang for three minutes then fell quiet as people joined in three minutes of silence.

Copenhagen city buses also stopped for one minute at noon as part of a nationwide display of "compassion for the victims, their families and the American people," said Mads Lebech, chair of the city bus company.

In the Ukraine, state television interrupted a movie to announce a nationwide day of mourning.

Ukrainians observed three minutes of silence and lined up to write in a book of condolences at the US Embassy in the capital Kiev.

"It's awful. What happened is not only the pain of the US, it's the world's pain," wrote Ira Timlina.

Pretoria to Havana

South Africans lined up to sign books of condolence outside the US Embassy in Pretoria, and President Thabo Mbeki said those responsible for the attacks had demeaned whatever cause they stood for.

"All human beings . . . will surely be engulfed by a deep sense of shame that human society is still capable of producing people who can deliberately plan and execute a crime as heinous as the crime that was perpetrated in the United States earlier this week," Mbeki wrote in a letter carried on the ruling African National Congress Internet site.

In Havana, two dozen workers filed out of the Spanish Embassy, standing solemnly on the sidewalk to observe three minutes of silence while the Spanish flag flew at half-staff.

Several other European embassies in Havana did the same at noon.

Cuban President Fidel Castro has condemned the attacks and expressed sympathy for the American people.

Colombian President Andres Pastrana attended a Mass at the presidential palace in Bogota and invited all Colombians to observe a minute of prayer to coincide with a prayer service in the National Cathedral in Washington.

In Ottawa, tens of thousands of Canadians gathered under bright midday sunshine for a nationwide ceremony attended by Prime Minister Jean Chretien and US Ambassador Paul Cellucci.

100 dead

About 100 British nationals were among those killed in the terrorist attacks that destroyed New York's World Trade Center twin towers, UK officials said.

They said the number could reach the "middle hundreds."

Outside the American Church on one of London's busiest streets, the only sound was the wind rustling through the trees.

Tottenham Court Road, usually a chaotic jumble of roaring traffic and a mass of pedestrians, came to a halt.

Since Tuesday's attacks shook the world, the American Church has become a focal point for US citizens living in London or in the UK on holiday.

Inside, candles flickered next to the Stars and Stripes as hundreds of people packed the church to pray and to join the three-minute silence.

In Edinburgh, workers put up an American flag at the city's castle and about 200 tourists gathered around it in silence.

In the Scottish town of Lockerbie, where 270 died when a plane was blown out of the sky in December 1988, the town hall bell tolled to signal the start of the three-minute silence.

Two police officers stood at the town's war memorial, their heads bowed.

In Wales, hundreds gathered in the center of Cardiff in silent tribute to those killed in the US tragedy.

Workers poured out of local offices to join Wales' political leaders for the three-minute silence at the war memorial outside the Assembly's civil service headquarters in the city center.

Across London, offices, shops, courts and factories fell silent, as did the Houses of Parliament, which were meeting in a rare special session to debate Britain's response to the attacks.

Tourist attractions such as the giant London Eye Ferris wheel along the River Thames also came to a stop.

Pubs were asked to delay their 11 a.m. opening by five minutes, shop staff were told not to process transactions, and black cabs and buses pulled over for three minutes.

EU statement

Earlier on Friday, the 15 government leaders of the European Union vowed to chase down those responsible for the terrorist attacks and hold accountable any countries providing them shelter.

They signed a statement outlining an anti-terrorism policy.

"We will not, under any circumstances, allow those responsible to find refuge, wherever they may be," the statement said. "Those responsible for hiding, supporting or harboring the perpetrators, organizers and sponsors of these acts will be held accountable."

The EU nations also said they would unify their arrest warrants and extradition orders, and bolster their common foreign and security policies in their fight against terrorism.

EU foreign ministers earlier expressed full solidarity with the United States, declaring Friday's three-minute silence as part of a day of mourning.

The declaration was expanded to include all 43 member-states of the Council of Europe based in Strasbourg, France. *Reports from AP, CNN*

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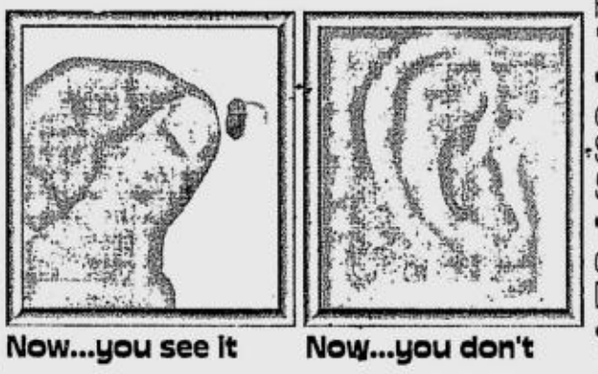

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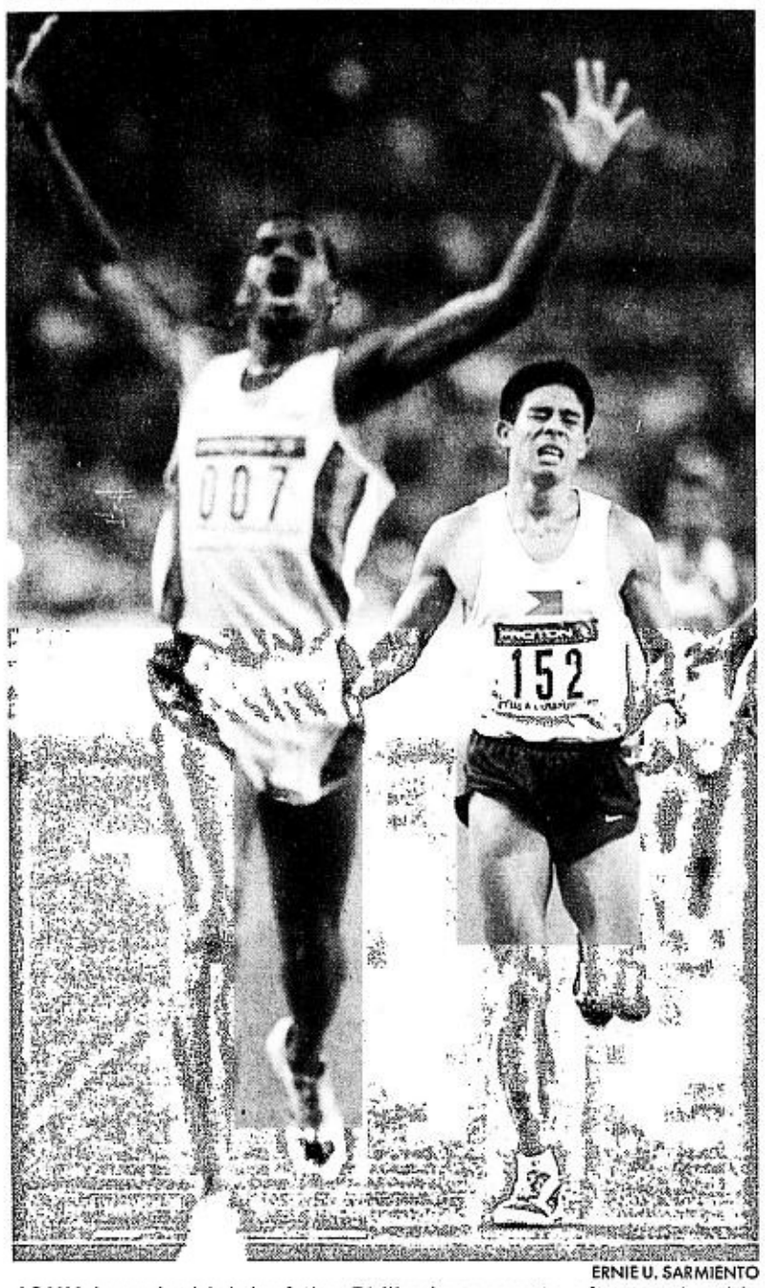
DLSU faces Ateneo today; NU vs FEU



ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

JOHN Lozada (right) of the Philippines reacts after seeing his opponent Munusamy of Malaysia cross the finish line during their 1,500m event on Friday in the Kuala Lumpur SEA Games. Lozada wound up second, but came back to top the 800m yesterday.

GAMES TODAY
(Araneta Coliseum)
2 p.m. – NU vs FEU (srs)
4 p.m. – Ateneo vs La Salle (srs)

BY JUNE NAVARRO

ATENEO and La Salle reprise their legendary rivalry today, although the outcome won't have any effect in their league-leading stature in the UAAP men's basketball tournament at the Araneta Coliseum.

Either way, both the Eagles and the Archers are assured of the top two spots in the Final Four and thus enjoy twice-to-beat incentives against their respective foes in the semifinals.

However, if Ateneo wins in the 4 p.m. encounter, it will tie La Salle at 11-3. They will clash again in a sudden-death to determine the No. 1 squad in the Final Four. If the Archers win, they will automatically take the top spot.

At any rate, the game that will have a more weight is the 2 p.m. tussle between National University and Far Eastern University.

The winner in the game will make the Final Four outright as the No. 3 team, while the loser will have to go against University of the East in the sudden-death for the fourth and last place in the semifinals.

In yesterday's action, University of Santo Tomas wrapped up its frustrating season with a 76-72 win over University of the East. The Tigers capped their campaign with a 6-8 record, while the Warriors, assured of a playoff in the Final Four, fell to 7-7.

In the other seniors game, University of the Philippines pounded Adamson without let-up before cruising to a 79-59 rout.

PBA at Cuneta

GAMES TODAY *(Cuneta Astrodome)*
4:05 p.m.—Purefoods vs Talk N Text
6:10 p.m.—Ginebra vs San Miguel

TALK N TEXT will ride the wind of its splendid opening-game triumph while sister squads Barangay Ginebra and San Miguel Beer part ways today in the PBA Governors Cup at the Cuneta Astrodome.

Stunning the complacent Shell Zoommasters, 92-90, last week, the Phone Pals are poised to duplicate that feat against the Purefoods TJ Hotdogs in the curtain-raiser at 4:05 p.m.

Mapua gains Final 4

MAPUA Tech assured itself of a Final Four journey after overwhelming University of Perpetual Help-Rizal, 80-72, yesterday in the NCAA men's basketball tournament at the Rizal Memorial Coliseum.

In the other varsity game, Jose Rizal University beat San Sebastian College, 81-75.

The art of blaming, praising

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

WE usually blame officials if our athletes fail to win abroad. We rarely blame athletes. That is kind of unfair, really.

In the 21st Southeast Asian Games, it can happen again. Blame officials. The most common reason being that they were remiss in their duties to produce champions. I can buy that, but with some qualifications.

First, let me say that there are basically three sets of sports officials in this country. One, the official who is directly involved in the training of athletes; he is the president of the national sports association (NSA). Two, the official who helps finance the training of athletes; he is Mr. Chair of the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC). Three, the official responsible for the country's participation; usually, he is the president of the Philippine Olympic Committee (POC).

The most common target of criticism in the face of a debacle is the high-profile official—Cito Dayrit, who happens to be the Olympic boss. He is the de facto spokesman of Philippine sports.

Next comes Butch Tuason, the PSC chair. His position spells government money, people's money, for use in the training of athletes. He is the moneybag of Philippine sports.

But make no mistake about it. The duo are but minor players in the development of a champion.

To me, the major players are the association (NSA) president and the athlete himself. Most of the time, it starts and ends with the NSA head. In other words, a good NSA president has more chances of producing a champion than a bad NSA president. In the same breadth, a bad NSA president has more chances of producing a louse than a good NSA president. It's pretty much like saying where Gloria goes, the country goes.

Now to the athlete in particular.

Every tournament abroad, not to exclude the 21st SEA Games, is a test for every athlete. His performance, yes, can be a reflection of the performance of his superiors. But that should not be the case all the time. The officials can always share the limelight with a winning athlete. Give him that ego trip, fellas. He's entitled to that if he wants to. But ultimately, after the picture taking and all, the adulation remains with the athlete all his life.

To me, a good athlete blames no one but himself if he fails.

To me, a good athlete praises everybody but himself if he wins.

And to me, the best athlete is one who pays tribute to his coach even if he ends up last.

There are those who were expected to win gold medals in Kuala Lumpur but fell short. To them, be brave enough to admit your shortcomings. Speak no ill of your coaches, your leaders.

And to those who won, be magnanimous as usual. Be thankful to your coach, to your leaders, to God. After all, glory is but fleeting. To fall in love with it could blind your worth as a person.

Permanently, if you don't watch it.

RP men, women teams upset in golf match play

THE PHILIPPINES lost the team gold medals in both the men's and women's golf competitions yesterday in the 21st Southeast Asian Games in Kuala Lumpur.

Both squads won their morning matches but lost the crucial afternoon battles. They go for the team bronze in both divisions today.

"Suddenly, we lost our touch in the afternoon," said Alice Andrada, team captain of the ladies team. "It was tough playing 36 holes in one day."

Heidi Chua routed her Singaporean opponent in the morning, 6 & 5, but Carmelette Villaroman barely eked out a 1-up victory after 19 grueling holes.

In the battle against Thailand, Onnarin, the individual gold medalist, beat Villaroman, 2-up after 19 holes, while Chua bowed to silver medalist Titiya Plucksataporn, 2-up.

The RP boys nipped lowly Brunei, 2-1, with gold medalist Juvic Pagunsan surprisingly bowing to his opponent, 2-up. His teammates Boyet Saragoza and Jay Bayron scored the wins.

But in the afternoon, Pagunsan, Bayron and Marvin Dumandan lost to their Malaysian foes by wide margins. Pagunsan dropped another squeaker, 2-up. Bayron bowed, 5 & 4, and Dumandan lost, 4 & 3.

Andrada's wards face Malaysia while the RP boys take on Indonesia in today's battle for the team bronze.

Pagunsan won the individual gold on Thursday by establishing three Games records—a 9-stroke winning margin, a 9-under overall total and a 17-birdie binge for the tournament.

KUALA LUMPUR 2001
SUKAN SEA XXI SEA GAMES

RP bags . . .

(From page A20)

Thursday, scoring a 5-4 win before a sprinkling of Filipino workers and sports officials at Gym One.

"Only a Filipino can beat a Filipino in this event. I don't want to go home without a gold but I can accept this loss," the 49-year-old Reyes said. Reyes beat Kiamco in the final of the same event in Brunei two years ago, but not after sharing the gold with his victim in the 15-ball doubles.

With the three-gold medal show, athletics, which ends today with the men and women marathon, now have six golds, the most among the RP sporting disciplines.

The victories came on a day which saw Thailand's Supavadee Khaw Peag erase Lydia de Vega-Mercado's record in 200m, and the Philippines struggling in its exciting duel for fourth overall against vastly improved Vietnam. The Thai runner breasted the tape in 23.30, .7 of a second better than De Vega-Mercado's mark which the Filipina darling recorded in the 1993 Singapore SEAG.

The Philippines improved to 27-63-67 (gold-silver-bronze) tally as it leads Vietnam (26-28-67) in the exciting duel for fourth. Vietnam, however, is expected to grab the lion's share of the 16 golds at stake today in the combat category of the pencak silat finals after having 10 finalists (four men and six women) in the finals.

Showing no mercy, the Philippines drubbed Singapore, 83-59, for its fourth straight win to virtually retain its title.

After shocking Thailand in women's football, 4-0, Vietnam, host of the 2003 Games, collected two more golds in the women 24km cross country through Nguyen Thi Thank Huyen, who beat Filipina Marites Bitbit, and Vu Manh Cuong, who shocked Indonesian Ismu Harinto, 19-21,21-13, 21-18, 21-12 in table tennis men's singles finals.

Powered by its five-gold medal haul in table tennis, Singapore, fourth finisher in Brunei improved its tally to 21 golds, 28 silvers and 35 bronzes, followed by Myanmar with 16-13-46 slate.

Thailand, however, cast a pall of doom in this progressive city, as it seized the overall lead with 86 golds, 71 silvers and 83 bronze medals. Malaysia, which is eyeing to record its first-ever overall crown since the inception of the Games in 1959, has 86-63-82 tally, making today's final day of competitions exciting.

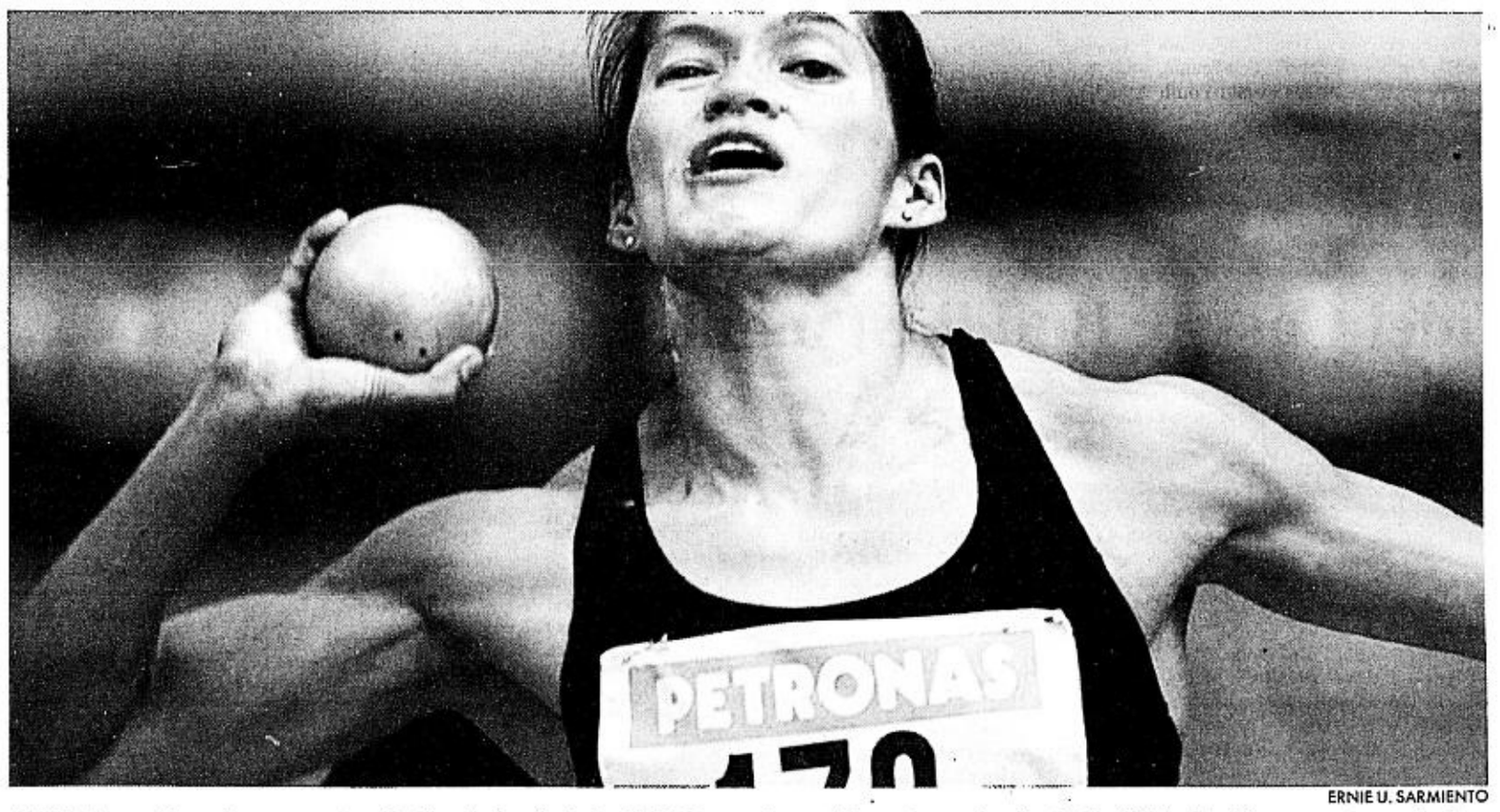
In Penang, Liza del Rosario lost to Malaysian Lai Kin Ngoh in the women's masters finals. Del Rosarion was leading till the 15th game, before the 25-year-old Malaysian made her move. Del Rosario finished with 3,593 pinfalls with Ngoh taking the gold with 3,5444. Yannaphon Larp-Apharat of Thailand topped the men's side with 3,590. Firsttimer Christian Suarez was the best Filipino finisher in sixth place.

In the overall battle, Malaysia, powered by Shalin Zulfikli's four-gold haul, won for the fourth straight time with 7-4-5 G-S-B tally, followed by the Philippines with four golds, six silvers and one bronze. Bowling, like wushu contributed four golds each for the Philippine cause.

Other silver medalists were Eusebio Quinones also finished second in the 36km cross country final after clocking 1:49.08. Thailand's Sutajit Jirojwong topped the event in1:47.51 and the duo of Ridgelly Balladares and Rommel Chavez in yachting.

Sydney Olympian Zardo Domenios bagged the bronze in the men's 3m springboard final behind Malaysian Yeo Ken Nee and Suchart Pichi of Thailand. Fellow Olympian Sheila Mae Perez, silver medalist in the 3m springboard, finished fourth in the 10m platform final.

The water polo team, silver medallist in Brunei, struggled to fourth place with a single win in four games in the event won by Singapore.



ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

ELMA Muros-Posadas competes in the shot put of the SEA Games heptathlon where she leads the field after three events yesterday.

Int'l golf show at Megamall Oct. 5-7

PUTTING and chipping competitions, daily raffles and so many other promotional activities will spice up the sixth Philippine International Golf Show this coming Oct. 5-7 at Megatrade Hall 2 of the SM Megamall in Mandaluyong.

The launching of brand-new equipment and balls will be marked by on-site skills challenge and exhibitors also announced their plans of giving away some of these new products taking the world market by storm through special raffles.

The Golf Distributors Association of the Philippines (GDAP), organizers of the show, said that the free educational seminars will be conducted for the first two days simultaneous with what promises to be the biggest staging of the Golf Show.

Raymund Atendido is the president of GDAP while Karina Herrera is exhibit chair.

Visits by celebrities, golf stars, sports officials and surprise guests will also serve as an added highlight like the one in 1999 when LPGA campaigners Dorothy Joy Delasin brought with her the trophy she won in the US Women's Amateur.

There are about 50 companies already registered to join the Golf Show. They are led by GDAP's active members Acro Golf and Turf, Aldiz, Besa's, Dunlop-Slazenger, Electrobus/Callaway, Formost Turf Equipment Inc., Gainer's Marketing, Golf House, IGRI Industries, Kart Plaza Manufacturing, Masters Sports-Mizuno, Pinnacle Distributors, PX Depot Wines & Golf, Taylor Made Adidas Golf Company and Wilson Sports.

For inquiries, contact Tradex Specialist at 438-1848, 421-0779 and 438-7821 or visit the official website of the event which was first launched in 1996 at www.philippineinternational-golfshow.com.

Tiger pulls out; Davis Cup reset

LONDON—Tiger Woods withdrew from next week's Lancome Trophy golf tournament in Paris, saying he wanted to pause, reflect and remember the victims of the terrorist attacks in the United States.

In addition, next week's Davis Cup match between the United States and India was postponed Friday, and other sports around Europe planned marks of respect this weekend in remembrance of the victims.

"I don't believe this is an appropriate time to play competitive golf," Woods said in a statement.

Woods' decision casts further doubt on the future of the Ryder Cup. The tournament, between the United States and Europe, is scheduled to be played the week after the Paris event at The Belfry in England from Sept. 28-30.

The Davis Cup tie, originally scheduled for Sept. 21-23 in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, was moved to Oct. 12-14, the All India Tennis Association said.

PGA donates $2M

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Florida—The PGA Tour will donate $2 million to relief funds for victims of the terrorist attacks, an amount that could grow if fans choose to donate the price of their tickets instead of getting a refund. The donation would "grow by an additional several million dollars, which would be a big step" in relief efforts, tour spokesman Bob Combs said Friday. *AP*

WOODS

Bankers meet slated

THE BANK Marketing Association of the Philippines (BMAP) is holding an invitational fund raising golf tournament dubbed "BMAP Swing for Hope" on Nov. 16 at the Tagaytay Golf and Country Club in Tagaytay City.

The project is for the benefit of Bantay Bata Foundation.

Bangko Central ng Pilipinas Gov. Rafael B. Buenaventura will formally open this year's tournament with the traditional ceremonial tee-off.

The event will gather chief executive officers and senior executives from various banking institutions as well as active bank members, sponsors and special guests to compete for the championship round.

The winning team will receive the Governor's Cup to be awarded by Buenaventura. Meanwhile, a separate fun activity for the children of Bantay Bata Foundation will also be held.

Jordan not holding news conference

WASHINGTON—Michael Jordan will not hold a formal news conference to announce whether he will play in the NBA this season, believing it inappropriate following the terrorist attacks on New York and Washington.

The announcement will be made by some other means, probably via fax, although the means and time are still being determined, said a source close to Jordan, speaking on condition of anonymity.

On Monday, Jordan said a news conference had been planned for Washington within 10 days at which he would announce his decision. He strongly indicated that he would return from his three-year retirement and play for the Washington Wizards.

The source said Jordan is now in no rush to make his decision and that continually developing national events could change its timing. It is all but certain, however, that he will make his intentions known before Oct. 2, when the Wizards are scheduled to begin training camp in Wilmington, North Carolina. *AP*

Country to host 'The Wave'

THE PHILIPPINES will host "The Wave," a world-class surfing championship in Manila Bay in January next year, according to Tourism secretary Richard Gordon.

He said the Department of Tourism will coordinate with the Philippine Sports Commission to bring in the country some high-tech equipment to produce a kilometer-long artificial wave in Manila Bay.

Renowned surfers from the United States, Europe and Asia are expected to flaunt their skills in the event.

Meanwhile, the Philippines will hold the annual Siargao International Surfing Cup in Surigao on Sept. 27-30 where a total cash prize of $10,000 is at stake.

TALENT I.D. PROGRAM

Volleyball Cup kicks off Abundo's project

ABUNDO

AGAIN putting emphasis on the development of sports through the youth, former sports commissioner Teresita Abundo announced yesterday the staging of a series of sporting events catering to students and out-of-school youngsters in various venues in the country.

Abundo said the project is an offshoot of the long-running Alaska Power Camp and her sports brainchild, the talent identification program.

"This will ensure that the Filipino youths will realize their dreams of becoming proud athletes of the country in the future," she said.

Abundo stressed the need for turnover of talents as she noted the quick ascension of aspirants from the countryside.

"Our present crop of sports heroes will not be around forever," she said. "We need a line of replacements who are hale, well-trained and, at a young age, have already been prepared for the disciplined and motivated lives of athletes."

Abundo, a former national volleyball player and a presidential awardee in sports, spent her life early in sports.

"I have met people willing to help the government in its national sports development program," she said.

Abundo praised Alaska, which teamed up with her in the staging of the 2nd Alaska Volleyball Cup.

The two-day event kicking off today at Ateneo features high school students, with Iruma designated as the official ball.

A total of 40 teams representing 26 schools will participate in the tourney aimed at providing students the thrill of early competition in the sport which Abundo described "the one where we can truly excel in the Southeast Asian region."

Out to challenge the boys' defending champion San Sebastian and girls' titlist University of the East are Quezon City High School, Batasan Hills National High School, Olivarez College, San Juan Municipal High School, Sacred Heart Academy, Hope Christian High School, Diliman Preparatory School, Davidville Academy, Balara Academy.

Juan Sumulong High School, Roosevelt College (Lamuan), Philippine Cultural High School, Ernesto Rondon High School, La Salle-Antipolo, Prenza National High School, St. Brdiget School, Stella Maris College, St. Paul-Parañaque, Lourdes School, Distance Learning Center (ABS CBN), St. Anne, St. Vincent, Paco Catholic School and Commonwealth High School.

"Volleyball can truly develop the Filipino youth. We have many talented volleyball players who only need the proper training and motivation to further hone their skills and prepare them for the harsher lives of an athlete."

The Alaska Power Camp has been one of the much-awaited summer events of young kids although this program also has sessions held every weekend of the school season.

Bramston reiterates support for athletes

THE PHILIPPINE Track and Field team currently competing in the 21st Southeast Asian Games in Kuala Lumpur is carrying the name Team Milo in line with the brand's strong support for sports development in the country.

Andrew Bramston, Nestle Philippines vice president for coffee and beverage, said Milo wants to show its commitment to Philippine athletics, especially in the biennial event in Malaysia.

"By making our youth aware that our athletes are competing in a prestigious international competition, we hope to stimulate their interest," said Milo brand manager Juan Miguel Alvarez.

Milo has actively supported Philippine campaigns in the past, including RP's stints in the 1996 Atlanta Olympics, 2000 Sydney Olympics and the 1999 Brunei SEA Games.

Bridge tourney drew 25 teams

SOME 25 teams from Southeast Asia took part in the 23rd Asean Bridge Club championship held recently in Makati City.

Last held in the Philippines in 1995, the event brought together the region's top bridge players in five main events namely, Open Pairs, Mixed Teams, Open Teams, Ladies Teams and Youth Teams.

Philippine Tournament Bridge Association president Daniel Lulu and organizing committee chair Mitch Tatco said the week-long tournament was held from Sept. 8-13 and awarded Asean Challenge trophies to the winners.

SEA GAMES SKED

SEPTEMBER 16

DIVING: 4 p.m.—Women's 3m synchronized, final (S. Perez, C. Domenios), men's 10m synchronized, final (Z. Domenios, R. Fabriga)

ATHLETICS: 6 a.m.—Men's Marathon, final (A. Ballester, R. Vence); Women's Marathon, final (C. Martes)

BASKETBALL: 2 p.m.—Philippines vs Indonesia (Women), 6 p.m.—Malaysia vs Philippines (Men)

SNOOKER & BILLIARDS: 10 a.m.—9-ball pool doubles, race to 5: Philippines (W. Kiamco-V. Tanlo) vs. Vietnam (L.Duc-N. Nam), preliminary, semifinal, finals

BOXING: 3 p.m.—Finals Note: RP boxers' schedule depends on results of earlier rounds

GOLF: 8 a.m.—RP men's & women's teams battle for team bronze

PBL Open cagefest draws Welcoat, Shark, 12 others

FOURTEEN teams have confirmed their participation in the biggest pre-season tournament—the 2001 PBL Open Invitational—set from Sept. 23 to Oct. 3 at the Makati Coliseum.

Nine commercial teams will be battling PBL regular squad Welcoat Paints, Shark Energy Drink, Blu Detergent and Hapee Toothpaste and the visiting Kuwaiti National Team in the 10-day tournament, which is a brainchild of PBL chairman Dioceldo Sy.

PBL Chief Operating Office Perry Martinez was elated over the response to the forthcoming tournament which got inquiries from the Northern Luzon area to as far as Davao and Palawan.

"The response was overwhelming, we got calls from as far North to as far as Davao and Palawan. But we can't accommodate them all as others have logistical problems staying here in Manila for more than a week," said Martinez.

The nine teams which assured their participation in the final meeting Friday afternoon were Chopat, represented by Joger Go; GP Maryson, led by George Palaran; Wang's Ballclub of-Alex Wang; Spring Cooking Oil mentored by Tito Palma; Hub Net Cafe of Ariel Vanguardia; Whiz Super Oil, represented by Terence Santos; the La Union Selection under Mannix Ortega; The Pampanga Selection of Allan Trinidad; and ML Kwarta Padala of Cebu.

Participants will be divided into two groups of seven teams which shall play against each other in a single-round robin elimination.

Five games will be played daily and the top two teams of each group after the elimination round will advance into the crossover semifinals.

The winners will battle each other in a sudden-death titular showdown while the losers will meet for third place.

'Valentine Party' race features 2-year-old fillies today at MJC

THE PHILIPPINE Racing Commission resumes its corpuscled campaign to sustain horse racing's phenomenal growth for the past eight months by resuming its "September Thunder" today.

Action will resume with today's scheduled running of the P400,000-added "Valentine Party Stakes" for two-year-old fillies at the San Lazaro Hippodrome.

Today's race is a follow-up to the Hombre Stakes held on Sept. 2 that also staked P400,000-added.

The final run is the Pl.5-Million TAB Philippines-Philracom Open Championship, with Silver Story and Wind Blown expected to duel for the crown.

"Judging by the impressive upsurge in racing sales by an average of about 30% over the past months, we are confident that the industry would be able to post new record sales by year end. Our efforts to present regular stakes attractions is intended to preserve such gains and generate renewed interest and patronage for the sport," said Philracom Chairman Andrew A. Sanchez

Undefeated race filly Golden Ballet leads the stellar cast of gallopers for the 1,425-meter stakes race and will have to contend with the challenge of such up and coming upstarts like Art of Rose, Blink N Wink, D'Raven, Fearzam, Indy's Quest, Kay Gee Em Ey, Tigra, Vice Free and What A Spell.

The marquee event of the Philracom's September Thunder would be the 1,900-meters TAB Philippines—Philracom Open Championship at the San Lazaro Hippodrome on Sept. 30.

The race is open to both local and foreign bred (imports) gallopers even as the country's leading horses in the open handicap set are due to participate.

Principally backed by multi-system service integrator TAB Philippines Inc., lead partner of the Manila Jockey Club Inc. in the nationwide expansion of its race betting operation, the featured race carries a guaranteed winner's purse of Pl million.

MITRA CUP RACING
Leaders of the local horse racing industry join hands in the formal launching of the 2nd Philtobo Mitra Cup Futurity Championship Racing Festival at the Manila Jockey Club. Among those present in the occasion were (from left) PRHTA Director Maximo Guce, Philtobo Directors Albert Yam, Johnny Tionloc, Jose Ferdinand Rojas and Manila Councilor Ernesto Logarta Jr., Philtobo Chair Antonio Lagdameo, GAB Chair Eduardo Villanueva, MJCI EVP and COO Roberto Reverente, Eduardo Mitra, Philtobo Directors Raymund Puyat, Manuel Viray and Eric Tagle, MJCI Vice President for Marketing Henri Kahn and NPJA President Teodoro Bolante.

'Killjoys' at PRC

THERE are many ways to express one's clation in victory.

In horse racing, winning jockeys often pump their fists or wave the whip upon hitting the wire.

Local ace jockey Fernando "Dhunoy" Raquel Jr. did the latter in his recent triumph aboard Mighty Strong in the Hombre Stakes at Santa Ana.

So delighted was Raquel that he boldly showed his rivals and the huge Sunday gallery the stick as Mighty Strong surged strongly in between horses to pull off a stunning win.

Unfortunately for Dhunoy, the Philippine Racing Club stewards frowned on that gesture, saying it was "unnnecessary." They slapped the young jockey with a P1,000 fine.

Dhunoy must have simply shrugged that incident off.

I could sense him saying: *"Ano'ng gusto nilang gawin ko eh sa tuwang tuwa ako sa panalo ko?"*.

Until I found out in the Dividendazo only recently, I didn't know that brandishing the whip the way Dhunoy did is a no-no in Philippine racing.

If I'm not mistaken, showing the whip is a common practice among victorious jockeys in the United States and Europe.

The great American rider Pat Day is not known only for fist-pumping. He also shows everybody the whip when winning just like his equally noted peers Gary Stevens, Jerry Bailey and the flamboyant Frankie Dettori.

PRC stewards probably want all jockeys here to be stiff and emotionless when pulling off big wins.

ONE WINNER

Edwin Villanueva

Because of that, my Silip Boy has branded those officials as "killjoys."

* * *

Jun Almeda's Golden Ballet is expected to corner most of the sales in this afternoon's Valentine Party Stakes race, second leg of the Juvenile Fillies Championship, at San Lazaro.

The two-year-old Treasure Cay-Likeable Style filly is aiming for a third straight victory following convincing romps in the Aug. 12 Sweepstakes and Sept. 2 Juvenile Condition.

If Golden Ballet prevails, it'll be a fitting honor for Almeda since Valentine Party was' his former campaigner who was best remembered for topping the Marho Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies race in 1998.

First leg (Confetti Stakes) winner Indy's Quest is tipped to provide the biggest challenge to Golden Ballet in today's 1,425-meter contest.

RACING TIPS

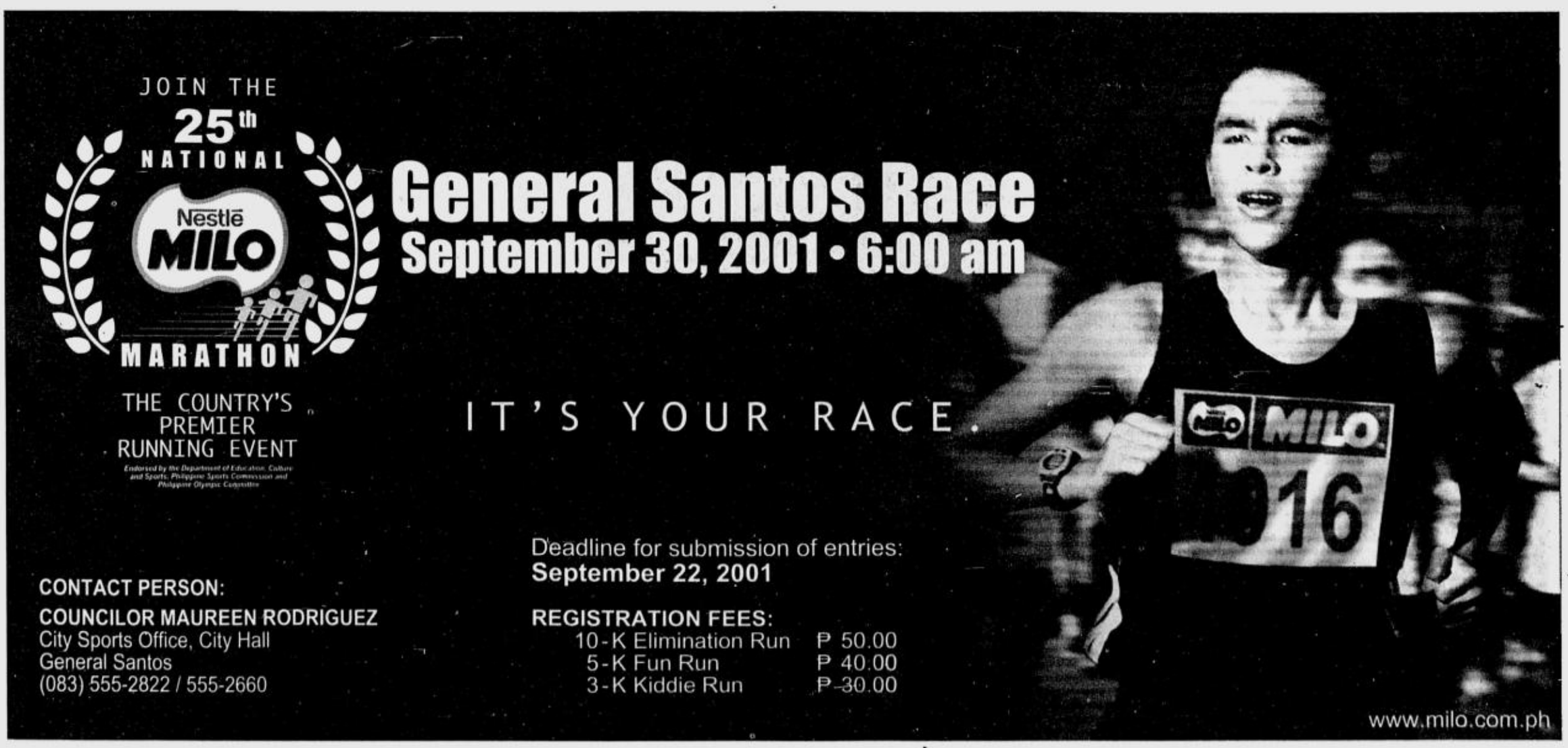
AT SAN LAZARO BY MR. 999

Race 1—1. Big Kahuna 2. Uncle Zaam 3. Pistol Red 4. Arch Rival
Race 2—1. Walang Hanggan 2. Due Process 3. Hinobaan's Pride 4. Caton 5. Rain Check/Sky Wind
Race 3—1. Join the Fun 2. Cherish Emblem 3. Charito 4. Noble Heart
Race 4—1. Lucky Gambit 2. Nagniningning 3. Wishing Well 4. Del Mar 5. Back to Back
Race 5—1. All Smiles 2. Supreme Prospect 3. Proud Conquistador 4. Baby My Beloved
Race 6—1. The Fox 2. High Roller 3. Master Ijhay 4. Noble Regent 5. Legend of Gaia
Race 7—1. Lorna 2. Field Master 3. Hurry Prince 4. Royal Worship
Race 8—1. Golden Ballet 2. Kay Gee Em Ey 3. Indy's Quest 4. What A Spell 5. Fearzam 6. Vice Free
Race 9—1. Mrs. Big 2. Tumatagining 3. High Fidelity 4. Silent Wind
Race 10—1. Nag-iisang Ikaw 2. Defense Minister 3. Iron Lady 4. Queen of Less 5. Centennial
Race 11—1. Reine Margaux 2. Real Dancer 3. Main Street 4. Jazz Queen
Race 12—1. Emancipated Belle 2. Patikim 3. Spectacular Queen 4. Pep Talk 5. Kentucky Gold
Race 13—1. Spirited Lady/Corporate Law 2. Hot Number 3. Andee's Joy 4. Winning Rose
Race 14—1. Tayp Ko Yan 2. I Dare You 3. Ebony Starr/Star Sapphire 4. The Topnotcher 5. Yoko Lady 6. Magnicolo

SPORTS ON TV

COMPILED BY LORENZO MANGUIAT

MOTOR SPORTS: 2001 F1 Qualifying - Italian Grand Prix Qualifying at 11 a.m. (r) on Star Sports
SBK Superbike Highlights at 12:30 p.m. (r) on Star Sports
Race Day - Italian Grand Prix at 7 p.m. on Star Sports
2001 F1 World Championships - Italian Grand Prix at 7:45 p.m. on Star Sports
Chequered Flag – F1 Italian Grand Prix at 10 p.m. on Star Sports
GOLF: Asian PGA Tour/ Davidoff Tour - Mercuries Masters at 8 a.m. (r) on Star Sports
This is the PGA Tour at 10 a.m. (r) on Star Sports
SBC Senior Open, Final Round at 2 p.m. on Star Sports



SundaySPORTS
AL S. MENDOZA, Editor ■ EDWIN M. VILLANUEVA, Assistant Editor

Nestlé MILO
The Official Energy Drink of the 21st SEA Games
KUALA LUMPUR 2001

MEDAL TALLY

As of 8:45 p.m., Sept. 15

Countries	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
Malaysia	75	53	74	202
Thailand	70	61	73	204
Indonesia	54	51	65	170
Vietnam	26	27	67	120
Philippines	25	62	67	154
Singapore	18	21	31	70
Myanmar	14	12	44	70
Laos	1	1	7	9
Cambodia	1	0	4	5
Brunei	0	1	6	7

MUROS BOUNCES BACK

RP bags 4 golds

BY DENNIS U. EROA

KUALA LUMPUR—Elma Muros-Posadas turned back the clock even as Warren Kiamco added to the miseries of Efren "Bata" Reyes, capping a memorable day for the Philippines in the 21st Southeast Asian Games here yesterday.

Ranged against foes young enough to be her daughters, the 34-year-old Muros-Posadas relived the glory of her 1997 heptathlon triumph in Jakarta, as she won the gold with 5,059 points, relegating teammate Percela Molina (4,687) and Vietnamese Vu Bich Hong (4,427) to the silver and bronze medals, respectively.

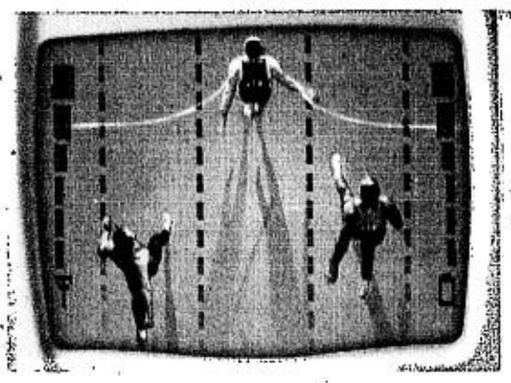
The scintillating win, which came two days after she relinquished her long jump title to another Vietnamese upstart Phan Thi Thu Lan, upped her gold collection to 14 since debuting as a promising athlete from Magdiwang, Romblon, in the 1981 Manila edition of the biennial Games.

Athletics also won two more golds, courtesy of Eduardo Buenavista and John Lozada, who triumphed in the 5,000m and 800m finals, respectively. Standing just five-foot-flat, Buenavista, who won the 3,000m steeplechase in record-breaking fashion last Wednesday, clocked 14 minutes, 15.13 seconds, while Lozada shrugged off the effects of his silver medal finish in the 1,500m, to rule the 800m in 1:49.39.

The 31-year-old Kiamco never blinked against Reyes, who was also upended by up and coming Lee Van Corteza in the 8-ball singles final last

RP BAGS/ A18

BUENAVISTA



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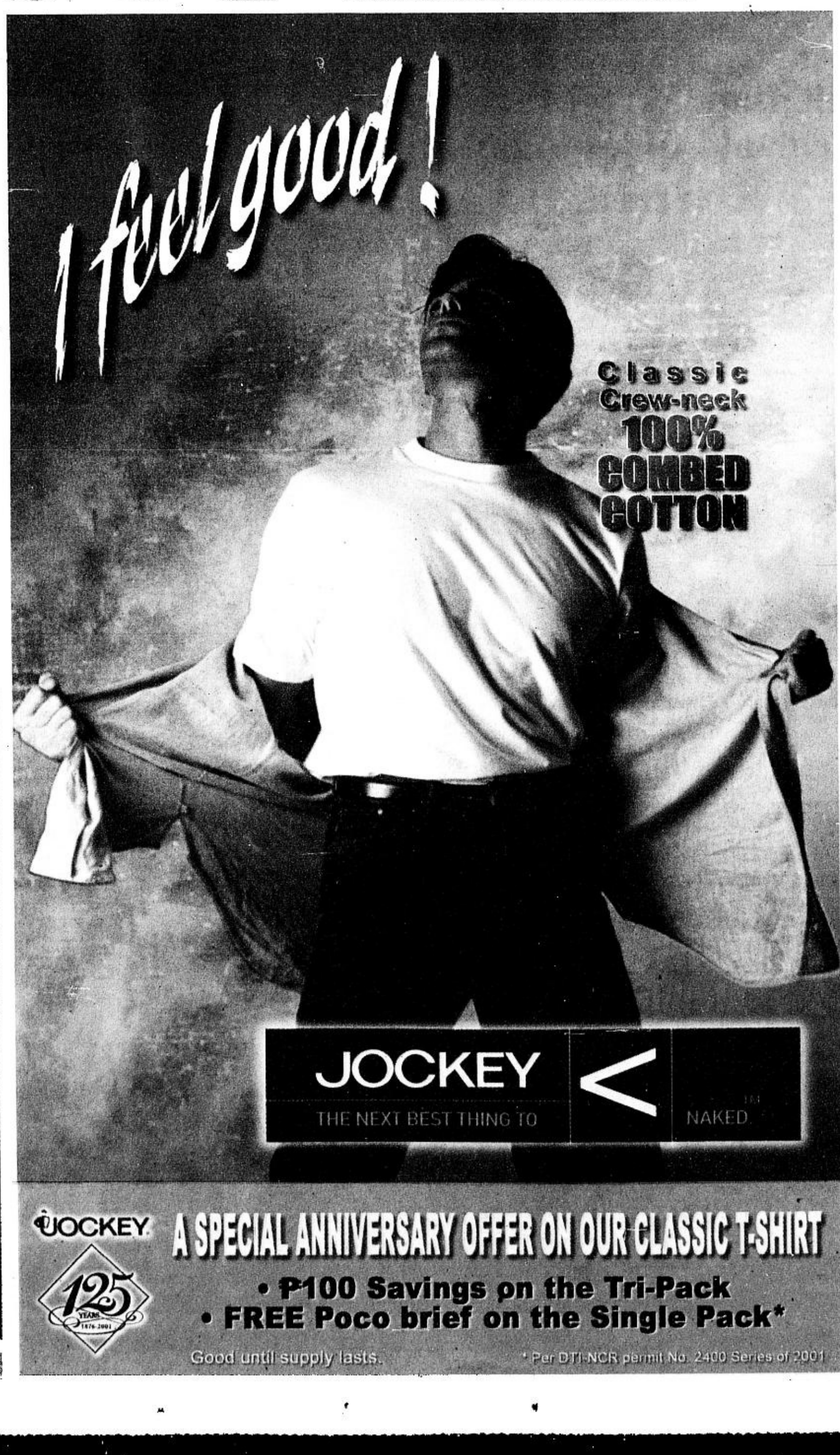

2 Filipino boxers seek wins today

BY DENNIS U. EROA

KUALA LUMPUR—Sydney Olympian Arlan Lerio knows that his fists will speak much about the state of Philippine boxing.

A protege of North Cotabato Gov. Emmanuel Piñol, Lerio hopes to crack Thailand's juggernaut as he clashes with Chotipat Wongprateat today for the bantamweight gold in the SEA Games boxing competitions at the Paroi Arena in Seremban.

"This is going to be a brawl," said Lerio, one of two Filipinos who managed to squeeze into today's finals dominated by 11 Thais and seven Malaysians.

Featherweight Ramil Zambales, the lucky guy among the members of Team Caltex Philippines, will aim to act as the second Thai spoiler as he battles Sutthisak Samaksaman. Zambales had a bye, then a walkover in the semifinals, thus making the final without even throwing a single punch.

ABAP president Manny Lopez has been very vocal in hitting the spotty scoring which greatly affected the Filipinos' chances to improve their two-gold medal production two years ago in Brunei.

Lerio and Zambales know they must deliver the golds and boost the Philippines' bid to salvage fourth place in the overall standings.

"Winning the gold is going to be a big thing considering that I'm up against a Thai. I want to help prevent Thailand's domination and will do my best to win the gold," Lerio said.

Arlan, whose younger brother Danny also saw action in Sydney, said it's important to pile up the points early against the Thai.

Coaches Gregorio Caliwan and Boy Velasco, elder brother of 1996 Atlanta Games silver medalist Mansueto "Onyok," described Arlan as a thinking boxer.

Lerio said he's dedicating his fight for the gold to his family and to his teammates, who lost in the quarterfinals.

Baylon eyes 2005 Games

KUALA LUMPUR—Retirement is far from the mind of judoka John Baylon, who gave the country its lone gold medal last Friday.

Now 36, Baylon, who ruled the half middleweight class in the judo competitions in Penang, said he wants to return to the scene of his first triumph before finally calling it quits.

"I want to play for the final time when the Philippines hosts the 2005 SEA Games. There's no substitute in playing in front of fellow Filipinos," said Baylon.

It was in the 1991 Manila SEA Games where Baylon started his reign in judo. This also means that Baylon will still compete in the 2003 Vietnam SEAG.

Retired Capt. Rey Jaylo lauded Baylon for his victory. "I am not surprised at all that John retained his title. He worked hard for this win," he said.

Baylon dedicated his victory to close friend Jerry Dino, who died before the start of the competitions. "This is for Jerry," he said. *Dennis U. Eroa*

Mike due from Tokyo

KUALA LUMPUR—First Gentleman Miguel Arroyo was scheduled to arrive here last night to witness the last two days of action of Filipino athletes in the 21st SEA Games.

Philippine Sports Commission chair Carlos Tuason said the First Gentleman, a first cousin, would be arriving at 7 p.m. straight from Tokyo after accompanying President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo in her state visit to Japan.

"The First Gentleman wants to cheer our athletes (in the last two days of the SEA Games competitions) and provide them with encouragement and moral support," Tuason said.

Tuason added that Arroyo would go straight from the airport and catch the action of the Filipino track and field athletes and the 15-ball billiards event featuring Efren "Bata" Reyes at the National Sports Complex where both the events were scheduled in the evening.

SUGOD PINOY!
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KUALA LUMPUR 2001

- Worker butchered in Pasig condo A22
- Pinoy Times is 2 A22

METRO

LOUIE C. CAMINO, Editor

Texters to send 1M messages to President

FOR PEACE'S SAKE
Vehicles going to the Ninoy Aquino International Airport are slowed down by police inspection at the approach to the ramp leading to the arrival and departure areas. But in the light of last Tuesday's terrorist attacks and hijacking of four planes in the United States, the local motorists are hardly complaining, understanding that the examination is for their own protection. ROGER MARGALLO

BY ANDREA TRINIDAD-ECHAVEZ

TEXTERS yesterday stepped up their war on cellular phone companies and launched "Oplan TXT GMA," a campaign to send at least a million text messages to President Macapagal-Arroyo.

Denouncing the lower court's decision Friday to lift the temporary restraining order on the reduction in free text messages, the consumer advocacy group called TXTPower yesterday urged texters and cell phone users in general to join their campaign, which would start Monday.

Aside from lifting the TRO against the implementation of the free text reduction, the Quezon City Regional Trial Court also dismissed the civil case filed by TXTPower and other concerned individuals.

TXTPower spokesperson Anthony Ian Cruz said that with Oplan TXT GMA, they hope to persuade the Macapagal administration to intervene and uphold the rights of consumers.

Cruz said TXTPower also hoped that Malacañang would finally do something to compel cellular phone firms to improve their services to 10 million subscribers.

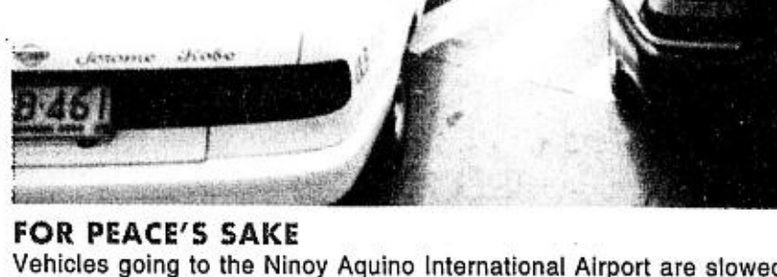
TEXTERS TO SEND/ A22

Man pushes wife from 6th floor, then jumps after her

BY JEROME ANING

A 25-YEAR-OLD man allegedly shoved her 21-year-old common-law wife from their 6th floor apartment, then himself jumped to his death yesterday morning in Tondo, Manila.

MAN PUSHES/ A22



VELARDE

Blind man 'sees' a bright future

BY TINA ARCEO-DUMLAO

TALES OF THE CITY

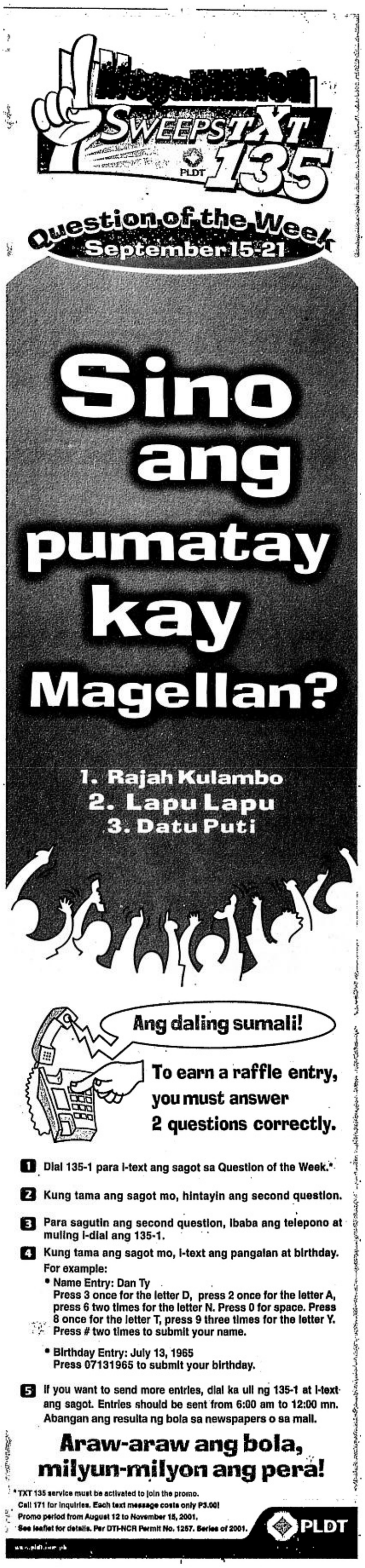
WHEN food giant Nestle Philippines Inc. sent its sales administration group head, Cesar Velarde, to Switzerland for a seminar in February last year, the executive was beside himself with joy for being given the chance to see one of the world's most picturesque countries.

Velarde enjoyed the sights of Switzerland, but they were his last views of that foreign land. He would not be seeing other lands, for that matter. Quite unexpectedly, Velarde woke up one day and realized that he could hardly see his hands even when he held them up in front of his face.

He became virtually blind.

Velarde, a 44-year-old diabetic, says he always had problems with his sight. In 1995, he had an operation to cure internal bleeding in his eyes. The doctors put in some silicon oil

BLIND MAN/ A22



'Serious tabloid' turns 2

PINOY Times, the tabloid-size newspaper in Filipino, turned two yesterday, Sept. 15.

The paper is best known for its fearless reporting of the unexplained wealth and the many mansions that deposed president Joseph Estrada built for himself, his family and his mistresses.

These reports appeared mostly in Pinoy Times Special Edition, the paper's weekend issue which is in a magazine format. The special edition first appeared after Ilocos Sur. Gov. Luis "Chavit" Singson dared to speak openly against his friend Estrada, over the jueteng issue.

Pinoy Times' regular edition is a newspaper format and comes out Monday to Friday.

Pinoy Times is also known for its irreverent but informative coverage of Estrada's impeachment trial. The quality of the paper's reporting moved Luis Teodoro, former dean of the University of the Philippines College of Mass Communication, to describe the paper as "the serious tabloid."

Pinoy Times was founded by Eugenia Duran Apostol a few years after her retirement from the Philippine Daily Inquirer as founding chair. She saw Pinoy Times as a way of communicating with the masses and making them participate in national affairs.

Pinoy Times carries out these objectives through reports and comments normally provided only by broadsheet newspapers.

Pinoy Times is staffed mostly by former editors and writers of The Manila Times.

Apostol's leadership in journalism and her espousal of truthful and courageous reporting recently won her the Knight Fellowship Achievement Award from the International Center for Journalism based in Washington.

Worker butchered in condo

By Blanche S. Rivera

"1978."

This tattoo was the only mark that was left recognizable on the body of Peter Ramosa, 26, who was found butchered in a condominium being constructed in Pasig City yesterday.

Ramosa was bathed in his own blood when police found him on the 36th floor of One San Miguel Avenue, a half-finished commercial condominium at the corner of San Miguel Avenue and Shaw Boulevard at 9:45 a.m.

Police said they found a wide and deep slit on Ramosa's throat and his head was barely held by what little was left of his neck. He had also been stabbed at least five times in the chest and sides, said case investigator SPO1 Roberto Garcia of the Pasig police.

Garcia said that on Saturday, he found the pair of slippers, apparently worn by the victim, on the 42nd floor of the building. A trail of blood to the 35th and 36th landing was also found, he said.

"It looked like he tried to run from the suspect, but because of the blood Ramosa lost, the suspect caught up with him," Garcia told the INQUIRER.

Ramosa, a stay-in construction worker employed by the Sto. Bambino Construction Inc., was last seen alive around 3 p.m. Saturday when his co-workers came to get their wages at One San Miguel Plaza.

A witness told police that Ramosa, a native of Surigao del Norte, was resting in the stockroom on the seventh floor of the building Saturday afternoon.

Garcia said marble setter Jun Bernardino came around 7 p.m. and left the building three hours later. Bernardino was not a stay-in worker like Ramosa, police learned.

Bernardino allegedly sought permission from the security personnel to allow him to take some baggage from the building but he was not allowed to do so.

The following morning, a security guard found Ramosa's body on the landing between the 35th and 36th floors. Beside the body was an air sole suspected to belong to one of Bernardino's shoes, police said.

Ramosa's co-workers would not have been able to identify him had they not seen the year "1978" tattooed on his arm.

Police are hunting down Bernardino.

'Raps vs SSS officials will hasten privatization'

By Nelson F. Flores

CONCERNED employees of the Social Security System warned that the administrative and criminal charges filed against SSS officials sympathetic to the workers might destroy the SSS union and hasten the institution's privatization.

The Alert and Concerned Employees for Better SSS (Access) issued the warning a day after new graft charges were filed against 14 ranking SSS officers who were earlier meted a six-month preventive suspension by the Ombudsman for grave misconduct.

Ramon San Andres Jr., Access vice president for external affairs, said the plan to destroy the union was hatched by eight SSS officers close to former SSS president Vitaliano Naniagas, in a recent meeting in Quezon City.

The INQUIRER tried but failed to contact the eight officers mentioned by San Andres.

San Andres said the eight officers, whom he dubbed as the "Gang of Eight," agreed to adopt a two-phase plan. He said the first phase of the plan involved the filing of all kinds of administrative charges against any SSS officer who supported the ouster of Naniagas and all union members who joined the mass action.

The eight would also actively seek their preventive suspension, he said.

"Once every concerned officer and union official has been suspended, the gang would then implement the second phase of their project wherein they would ask Malacañang to immediately privatize the SSS," San Andres said.

He claimed that an influential publicist close to Malacañang is helping Naniagas and the Gang of Eight to get a favorable ruling from the Office of the Ombudsman.

The SSS officers who were charged and suspended for six months without pay were Horace Templo, Leopoldo Veroy, and Edgar Solilapsi, and Commissioners Amador Monteiro, Lilia Marquez, Carlos Arellano, Rafael Estrada, Miguel Varela, Marianita Mendoza, Juan Tan, Cecilio Seno, Raul Incocentes, Bienvenido Laguesma and Aurora Aranez.

The charges stemmed from their involvement in the purchase of alleged overpriced stocks of the Philippine Commercial and Industrial Bank early this year.

The new charges were filed in connection with the questionable investment of the SSS in DCMI Holdings in May 2000. The charges were filed by Amado Cabaero and Honesto General on behalf of the Philippine Association of Retired Persons.

Rizaldy Capulong, deputy chief actuary and assistant vice president for securities trading and management department, and Mariano Pablo Tolentino, assistant vice president for asset management, have been implicated in the scandal.

Texters to send 1M message . . .

(From page A21)

"Starting at 6 a.m. on Monday, let's text the President and ask for actual government support for consumers because we are unfortunately left to highway robbers like Globe and Smart," Cruz said in the weekly Kapihan sa Cypress in Quezon City.

The group started circulating the call to text the President yesterday.

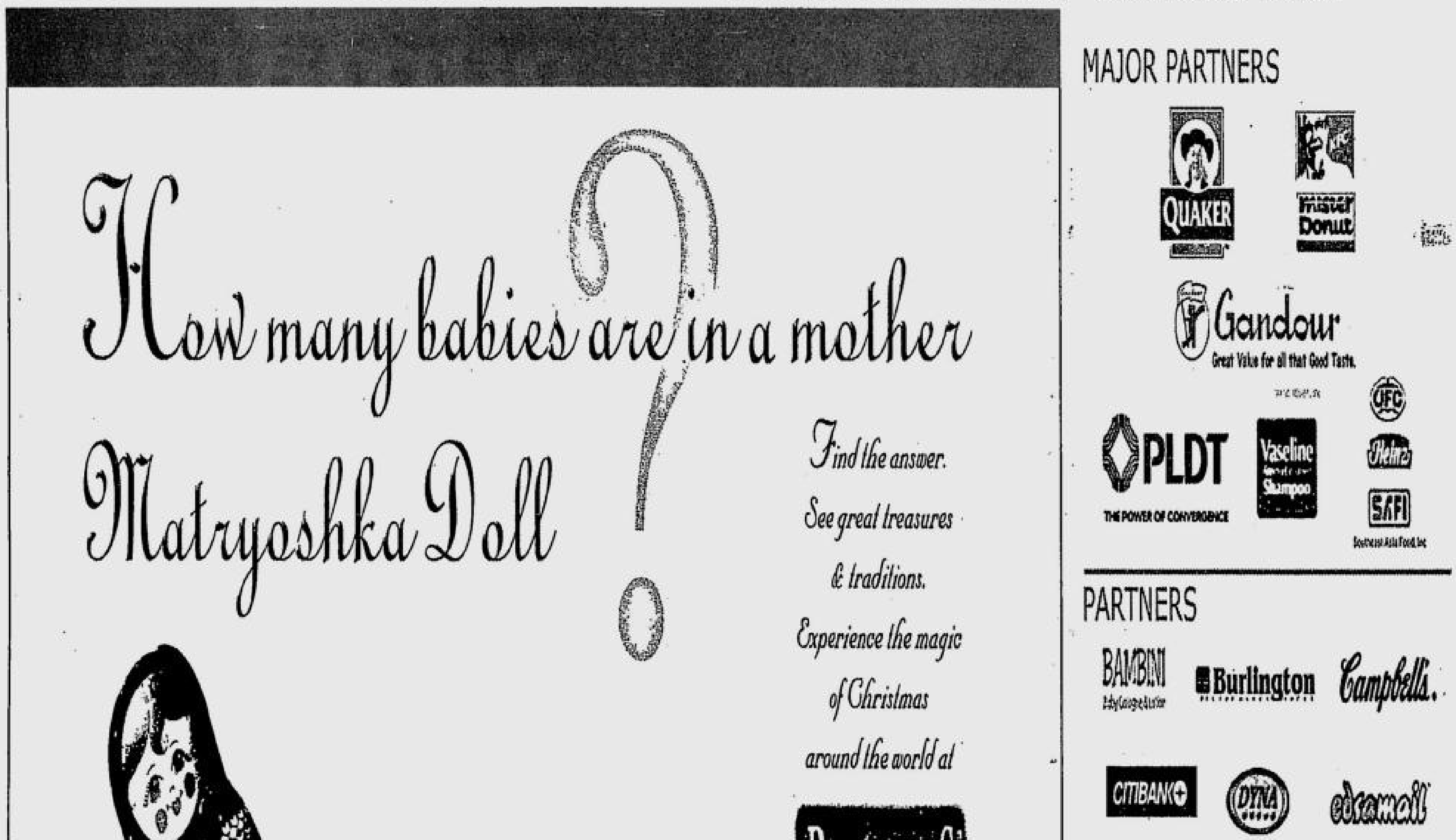
It said the President's cell phone numbers are (0917) 898-2462, (0917) 898-5462, (0919) 898-4621, (0919) 898-4622, (0919) 898-4623.

Cruz said that TXTPower, along with other consumer organizations, would also formally write the President next week to ask for her help.

"The President has reportedly issued a statement in favor of texters and cell phone users. Now that Globe and Smart won on a technicality, we would ask her to use the powers of the presidency to help at least 10 million Filipinos who are disadvantaged in this situation."

Cruz said the President could order the NTC to look into the issue and release an official statement on the text reduction issue.

The President could also "at least exercise moral suasion in convincing Globe and Smart to withdraw their plan," Cruz said.



Blind man . . .

(From page A21)

and his vision was restored. He could even drive.

Then the Switzerland trip came.

Velarde suspected that it was either the very cold climate or the altitude that damaged his vision that time. Fortunately, he traveled to Switzerland with his wife and so he was able to go back to the Philippines safe and sound.

Why me?

He had to undergo another operation last March to remove his cataracts. The doctors did remove the cataracts but he was left with an even more impaired vision.

"When I came back from Switzerland I could still count my fingers in front of me," he recalls. "But now, after that operation, I can no longer see my fingers, just the outline of my hand."

Like most people confronted with tragedy, Velarde felt depressed and he wondered why it had to happen to him. But instead of wallowing in self-pity, he took stock of his situation and decided to do something about it.

"I was listening to television one day and I heard about this computer software for the blind on CNN. I asked my daughter to get more information about it on the Internet because I was interested to learn more about it.

"Then just two weeks later, my wife, who works for IBM, told me about a program for the blind that IBM was offering. I immediately signed up."

Velarde became one of the first students of Computer Eyes, an IBM outreach program designed to introduce the Home Page Reader program to visually impaired Filipinos.

It is the first national computer workshop for blind students in the country.

The program can "browse aloud" web pages to open up the Internet to the blind. The Computer Eyes program allows the students to test the technology themselves and to learn a number of keyboard commands so they can choose the material they want to be read by the Home Page Reader program.

Learning

IBM and its partners designed the program to help alleviate the plight of the blind. Statistics show that the Philippines has 500,000 visually impaired people, of which 40,000 are of school age. This number swells by about 60 a week because of malnutrition, disease or injury.

"Before my eyesight deteriorated I was very proficient in using the computer," Velarde says. "I am glad that somehow with this software I can still see. It is a little difficult to memorize the keyboard commands but I am learning."

Velarde says he decided to make something out of his situation because there was no use just getting depressed. He also looked at his blindness as just one of the trials that God puts in one's way once in a while.

"I look at it as a blessing in disguise," he says of his condition. "These days, for example, I understand the Bible better than I used to. The financial repercussions are the only things that worry my family right now but I trust God to provide for us. I know that we will overcome."

Velarde, after all, is a veteran when it comes to overcoming seemingly insurmountable trials. He came from a poor family and he had to work to pay for his schooling.

Lucky man

"I used to sell food in front of our house so that I could go to school," he says. "I did work and school at the same time but I was able to finish. In college, I had a professor who had an auditing firm. He would ask me to help him and then he would give me an allowance."

Between the money he got from his professor, his scholarship at Adamson University and whatever little extras he got from an elder sister, he was able to finish his commerce degree, eventually going on to become a certified public accountant.

"Nakatsamba lang (Pure luck)," he says.

He worked for different firms but it was in Nestle Philippines that he rose up the ranks, from a simple clerk to eventually the head of the sales administration group. He has worked with Nestle for the past 21 years, almost half his life.

"It was a desk and field job which took me through different places. I would visit different sales offices before and talk with different people. We worked to support our sales department," Velarde said.

Recovery

He no longer works these days, as he is no longer able to go out of his house alone. He relies on his wife and their 17-year-old daughter, Paula, who is taking up nursing at the University of the Philippines, and their son Patrick, 11, who is in 5th grade at Don Bosco.

Velarde also considers himself lucky because he still gets sick leave benefits from Nestle, even when he stopped more than a year ago.

He also remains optimistic that he would be able to go back to work soon as his doctors feel that that he has a good chance of recovering his sight.

"The inner chamber of my eye is still swollen but the doctors feel that with a little more time, I may recover 80 percent of my vision. I see a little improvement."

Velarde is certainly not one to just sit down and do nothing while waiting for his sight to return. He says he still sees a bright future ahead of him, sight or no sight.

Man pushes . . .

(From page A21)

Noriel Gregorio and Maricel Rodriguez, tenants of 2501 Tenement Building at 607 Vitas St., both died.

SPO1 Athos de Quiros of the Western Police District homicide section said that before the couple's fall, neighbors heard husband and wife arguing loudly and intermittently since Friday night.

The investigator said he initially interviewed several residents of a neighboring tenement building who claimed they saw Gregorio carrying his wife, whose body appeared limp, and then throwing her from the 6th floor apartment's terrace around 11 a.m. yesterday.

The husband then flung himself from the terrace and crashed beside his wife's body, according to witnesses, whose identity police withheld.

Gregorio and Rodriguez, whose bodies were recovered in an alley beside the building, were brought to the Tondo Medical Center but they were pronounced dead on arrival.

SPO1 De Quiros told reporters that Rodriguez might have been dead already when she was thrown from the apartment.

If that was the case, then Gregorio could have committed suicide because he was guilt-stricken, De Quiros added.

A cousin of the man told radio station dzBB that Gregorio was a drug dependent and that his addiction was the root of the couple's bickerings.

The bodies of the couple were to be autopsied at the police criminal laboratory.

The couple left three children, aged 3, 4 and 6.

GMA

COUNTER STRIKE

ANG **BAGONG PRIMETIME** NG GMA

TONIGHT

7:00 POKEMON
Sunday is now the official Poke-day!

7:30 SINERAMA featuring
"SANGGANO"
Ang idolo ng Masa at ang Prinsesa ng Takilya!
CESAR MONTANO & JUDY ANN SANTOS

9:30 SUNDAY NIGHT BOX OFFICE featuring
"RANSOM"
Anong gagawin mo pag na-kidnap ang anak mo?
MEL GIBSON • RENE RUSSO • GARY SINISE

MONDAY TO FRIDAY COUNTER STRIKE

6:00 SAKSI
Sa dami ng nangyayari, isang oras na!

7:00 LUPIN III new timeslot

7:30 DRAGONBALL Z new timeslot

8:00 IKAW LANG ANG MAMAHALIN new timeslot

8:30 MONICA BRAVA new timeslot

MONDAY NIGHT COUNTER STRIKE

9:00 PINOY BLOCKBUSTERS featuring new timeslot
"Batas Ko ang Uusig"
Nag-uumapaw na aksyon!
JESTONI ALARCON

TUESDAY NIGHT COUNTER STRIKE

9:00 KOOL KA LANG new timeslot
Anong mangyayari sa muling pagkikita nina Benjie Paras at Jackie Forster?

10:00 KASANGGA new timeslot
"Utol, Inasawa ng Kuya"

WEDNESDAY NIGHT COUNTER STRIKE

9:00 BEH BOTE NGA new timeslot

10:00 ANTOINETTE SA LARAWAN new timeslot

THURSDAY NIGHT COUNTER STRIKE

9:00 DADDY DI DO DU new timeslot

10:00 SA DAKO PA ROON new program
STARTING SEPT. 27

FRIDAY NIGHT COUNTER STRIKE

9:00 BUBBLE GANG new timeslot

10:00 GMA LOVE STORIES new timeslot

SATURDAY NIGHT COUNTER STRIKE

6:30 BITOY'S WORLD new timeslot

7:00 IDOL KO SI KAP
Lulusob sa mall ang Bgy. Rancho Verde!

8:00 KAKABAKABA
The Bubble barkada crosses over to horror!

COUNTERSTRIKE SA PAGKALUNGKOT AT PAGKABAGOT!

GMA **MASMASAYA!**

Woody Allen, 42 films later

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

VETERAN comedian and film auteur **Woody Allen** began his showbiz career when he wrote gags for some established comics. Along with **Neil Simeon** and **Mel Brooks** he wrote for Sid Caesar's TV comedy program, "Your Show of Shows."

Once he got his foot into the comedy business, he worked on his own as a stand-up comic, and soon became popular with urban audiences, because his neurotic preoccupations reflected their own.

In 1965, the movies discovered him and he was tapped to write the script for an act in "What's New Pussycat?" This was followed in 1966 with "What's Up, Tiger Lily?," which he also produced; "Casino Royale" in 1967, and "Take the Money and Run" (his first starrer) and "Don't Drink the Water" in 1969.

Allen's work picked up as film actor, director and scriptwriter steam in the '70s: 1971, "Bananas;" 1972, "Everything You Wanted to Know About Sex" and "Play It Again, Sam;" 1973, "Sleeper;" 1975, "Love and Death;" 1976, "The Front;" 1977, "Annie Hall;" 1978, "Interiors;" 1979, "Manhattan."

By this time, Allen had already developed a relatively small but fiercely loyal following, and this dependable support group enabled him to make a wide range of alternative and uncommercial movies, free from studio control and intervention.

In the '80s, Allen consolidated his gains with these productions: 1980, "Stardust Memories;" 1982, "A Midsummer Night's Sex Comedy;" 1983, "Zelig;" 1984, "Broadway Danny Rose;" 1985, "The Purple Rose of Cairo;" 1986, "Hannah and Her Sisters;" 1987, "King Lear," "Radio Days" and "September;" 1988, "Another Woman;" 1989, "Crimes and Misdemeanors" and "Oedipus Wrecks" in "New York Stories."

In the '90s, Allen sutained his average output of 10 to 12 films per decade: 1990, "Alice;" 1991, "Scenes from a Mall;" 1992, "Husbands and Wives" and "Shadows and Fog;" 1993, "Manhattan Murder Mystery;" 1994, "Bullets Over Broadway;" 1995, "Mighty Aphrodite;" 1996, "Everyone Says I Love You;" 1997, "Deconstructing Henry;" 1998, "Antz" (voice only), "Celebrity" and "The Impostors;" 1999, "Sweet and Lowdown;" 2000, "Small Time Crooks;" and 2001, "Company Man" and "The Curse of the Jade Scorpion."

Allen has had an exceptionally successful career, but everything he had achieved threatened to come tumbling down when he had an affair with 21-year-old **Soon-Yi Previn**, the adopted daughter of his longtime love, **Mia Farrow**.

The comedian was pilloried in the press for many months for his "semi-incestuous" act, and he barely escaped with his career intact. He's since bounced back, but we can be fairly sure that he won't be getting romantically involved with anyone even remotely related to him, his loved ones, his friends or even his neighbors ever again!

Feedback

CONCLUSION of **Gerardo B. Reynaldo**'s letter on film sound:

"In local movies, though, I think the bad recording systems that are employed in the processing and editing of films do not go well with the systems used by cineplexes. Instead of a balanced contrast of high and low that are heard in foreign movies, the sound is trebly, thin and tinny. Mercifully, this makes the spoken lines more distinct.

"I think it was the advent of the summer blockbuster, where sound engineers and new-generation directors weaned on MTV that made stars out of special effects, that made sound and accompanying music also worthy of appreciation. Thus, the creation of new technology to pump up the volume and thereby create a new theatrical experience—literally.

"We have to thank **George Lucas** for pioneering improvements in this overlooked aspect of movie-viewing (THX was his concept but was designed by Tomlimson). Entertainment has become more enjoyable. But I wish cineplexes used more discretion and had more technical knowhow in calibrating sound to complement movement onscreen."

New group dares to spend millions on shows despite the slump

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Leah Salterio

DESPITE the present economic slump, a new outfit is willing to stake millions and mount a major concert in a big venue with big-name stars.

The team of aggressive entrepreneurs and businessmen who believe in the Filipino talent has put up a new production company, Marylouise International Production. On Oct. 19, Marylouise International Production will mount "X-Static," an all-star concert at the Araneta Coliseum. The musical event will feature **Gary Valenciano** and **Lani Misalucha**, with **Aiza Seguerra, Carol Banawa, Karylle, Piolo Pascual** and MTV Asia VJ **Donita Rose**. **Floy Quintos** will direct, with **Mon Faustino** as musical director.

"X-Static" is being held in line with the celebration of the Unicef youth month in October.

"As long as we work hard, we can achieve our goals," says Marylouise liaison officer **Joferd Nievera**. "We all know you don't earn much when you produce shows. There are other more lucrative businesses. But more than earning revenues, we also want to create jobs for production people."

The people behind the company started out as line producers and investors of other shows in the past.

"All of us have been involved in production at one time or another," Nievera grants. "We witnessed the times when the concert scene was alive and when things weren't doing so well. There are ups and downs but you have to admit, good or bad times, people always look for entertainment."

Marylouise International also wants to produce live concerts in the provinces and abroad.

The company will produce not just one show at a time but will pursue simultaneous projects handled by a team of account managers.

"The set-up is similar to an ad agency," Nievera allows. "While we are working on a production, we are conceptualizing other projects. It's non-stop work and planning."

Meanwhile, as far as sponsorships are concerned, Marylouise International is optimistic that despite the hard times, they can get commitments from companies, especially those with new products to promote.

"We know there aren't too many companies willing to invest at this time," Nievera says. "I guess we just have to work hard to convince those who have the budget."

"X-Static" the concert is accepting ticket reservations at 840-3745 or 812-4422.

First-time TV producer

A FILIPINO who's been based in California for 22 years came home for the first time early this year to test the local show biz waters.

Honesto Cadiz is also staking his dollars on the local entertainment scene. As first-time TV producer, he is behind a telesine to be shot in the United States and starring the young love team of **Antoinette Taus** and **Dingdong Dantes**. The made-for-TV movie will be aired on GMA 7.

Cadiz's show biz venture is not surprising. As a child growing up in the US, he was always fascinated with Filipino films, particularly the comedy flicks of **Dolphy** and the action movies of **Fernando Poe Jr.**

He still loves watching local TV programs on The Filipino Channel (TFC).

Cadiz also dreams of being an actor, although he does not have the illusion of being a lead actor.

"I want to do character roles," he says. "I don't mind doing villain roles at all. I studied martial arts and I can do action roles. I don't really want to be a big star. If there are no acting parts, I can just work behind the scenes."

Cadiz majored in fire science at the Chabot College in Hayward, California. He trained as a firefighter but never got to practice it. He now works as a car parts inspector in the Toyota office in Freemont, California.

His family also runs a care-giving home for mentally impaired children.

After producing the telesine, Cadiz eventually wants to try his hand at producing a film, also to be shot in the US.

"I want to give exposure to aspiring Filipino talents based in the Bay Area," he says. "Who knows, we might find the next big star of local show biz there."

ALL-STAR-CAST concert: "X-Static" features Gary Valenciano, Aiza Seguerra, Karylle and Carol Banawa.

CADIZ. Staking his dollars on a made-for-TV movie.

Long-distance dad

EVEN if he lives away from his family who is now based in Sydney, action star **Robin Padilla** has been faithfully playing his real-life roles, as husband to **Liezl Sicangco** and father to their three daughters.

Robin left early this week for Sydney to be with his wife on her birthday.

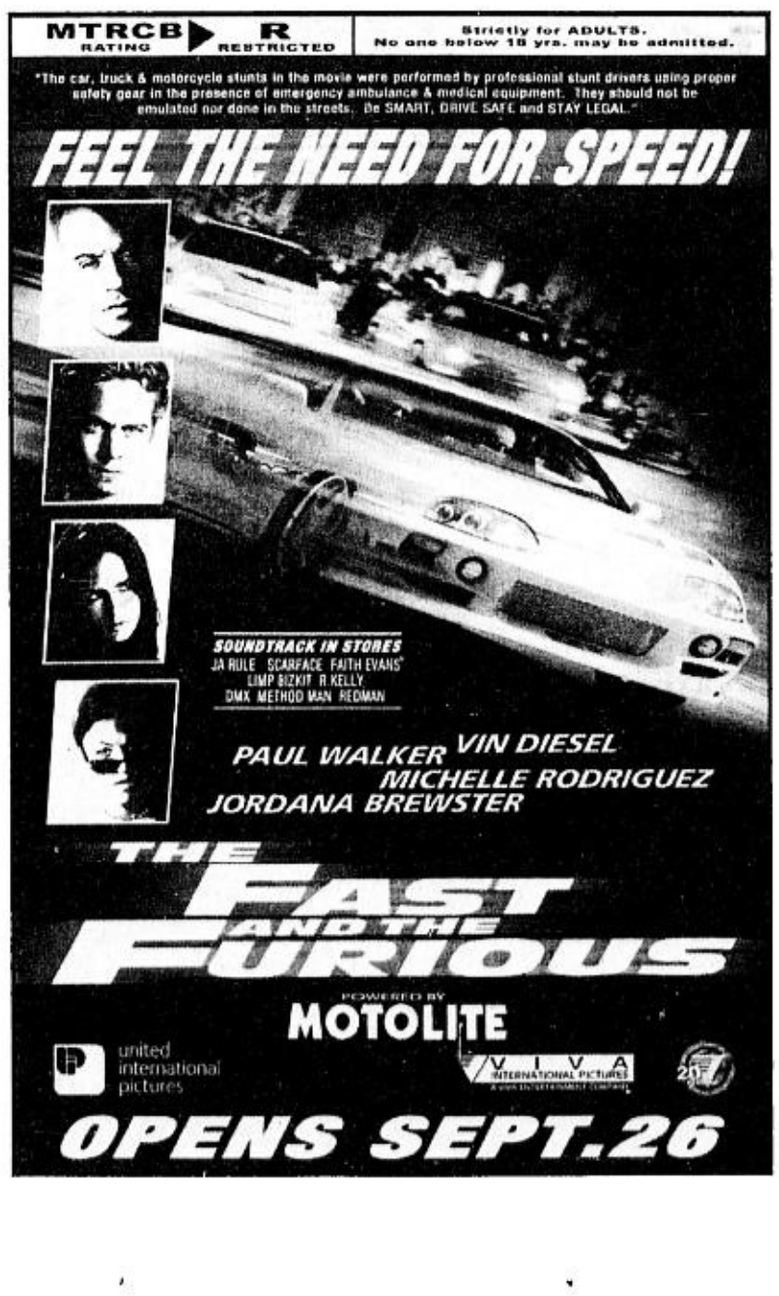
Despite the intrigues in show biz, Robin has admirably adapted to being a long-distance dad and husband. It was his decision to make his family migrate to Australia, to spare them the controversies in show biz.

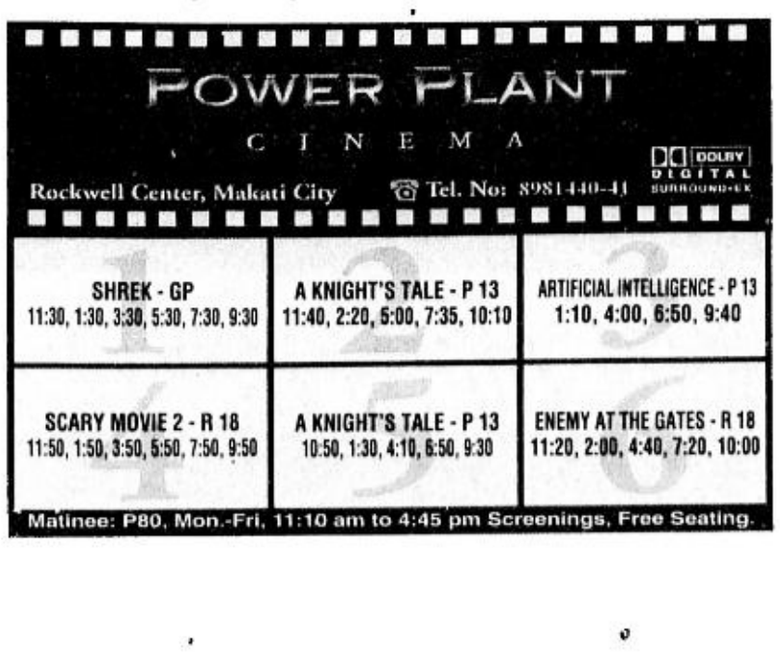
Robin took time out from the filming of his Viva Films movie with **Sharon Cuneta**, "Pagdating ng Panahon."

Robin will have to juggle his time between promoting his other movie, "Videoke King," opposite **Pops Fernandez** for Star Cinema, and filming with Sharon.

LYTE FUNKY ONES

When Rich Kronin, Brad Fischetti and Devin Lima crashed into the pop music scene in 1999, they made sure the impact was loud enough to compel the world to add their name in the elite list of boy bands who made it. Debuting with the rhapsodic anthem "Summer Girls," Lyte Funky Ones or LFO soon had everyone singing their single. By yearend, the Boston and New Jersey-based boys notched a considerable streak of smashes with their follow up hits "Girl on TV" and "I Don't Wanna Kiss You Goodnight," all culled from their eponymous debut album. Recently, the boys released a new album, "Life is Good," now available under BMG Records. The first single culled from the CD is the R&B-tinged "Every Other Time."





Hi! How was your party? Things were kinda busy here in L.A.

twas fun! u wud'v lykd it. ü

Any party's a blast with you around! ;) ;) wish I was there with you!

hahaha i'l jst txt u my party adventurs! ü

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1	RUSH HOUR 2
2	A.I.
3	KNIGHT'S TALE
4	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
5	ENEMY AT THE GATES
6	BANYO QUEEN
7	MANO MANO 2
8	SCARY MOVIE 2

SM CENTERPOINT
7148522-7161416

1	BANYO QUEEN
2	SCARY MOVIE 2
3	ENEMY AT THE GATES
4	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
5	KNIGHT'S TALE
6	MANO MANO 2
7	RUSH HOUR 2
8	CROCODILE 2
9	A.I.
10	SHREK

SM CITY FAIRVIEW
9390749

1	CROCODILE 2
2	RUSH HOUR 2
3	A.I.
4	KIGHT'S TALE
5	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
6	BANYO QUEEN
7	ENEMY AT THE GATES
8	BANYO QUEEN
9	SCARY MOVIE 2
10	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
11	SHREK
12	MAÑO MANO 2

SM CITY MANILA
5235240

1	KNIGHT'S TALE
2	ENEMY AT THE GATES
3	CROCODILE 2
4	SCARY MOVIE 2
5	RUSH HOUR 2
6	A.I.
7	MANO MANO 2
8	SHREK
9	BANYO QUEEN
10	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
11	A.I.
12	KNIGHT'S TALE

SM MEGAMALL
6331601-6339401

1	KNIGHT'S TALE
2	RUSH HOUR 2
3	KNIGHT'S TALE
4	ENEMY AT THE GATES
5	SCARY MOVIE 2
6	SHREK
7	CROCODILE 2
8	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
9	BANYO QUEEN
10	A.I.
11	MANO MANO 2
12	SCREAM... FRIDAY 13TH

SM TUTUBAN
2514302

1	KNIGHT'S TALE
2	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
3	SCARY MOVIE 2
4	BANYO QUEEN

SM CITY NORTH EDSA
9295452

1	BANYO QUEEN
2	RUSH HOUR 2
3	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
4	MANO MANO 2
5	SCARY MOVIE 2
6	ENEMY AT THE GATES
7	A.I.
8	KNIGHT'S TALE
9	SCREAM... FRIDAY 13TH
10	CROCODILE 2
11	PAREHAS ANG LABAN
12	SHREK

SM SOUTHMALL
8066888

1	A.I.
2	SCARY MOVIE 2
3	KNIGHT'S TALE
4	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
5	CROCODILE 2
6	RUSH HOUR 2
7	BANYO QUEEN
8	ENEMY AT THE GATES
9	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
10	MANO MANO 2

SM GUADALUPE COMM'L
8820095

1	MANO MANO 2
2	BANYO QUEEN
3	KNIGHT'S TALE

SM CEBU
2313878

1	RUSH HOUR 2
2	A.I.
3	SCREAM... FRIDAY 13TH
4	TEENAGE SEDUCTION
5	SEX MEDUSA
6	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
7	SCARY MOVIE 2

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1	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
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4	CRAZY BEAUTIFUL
5	A.I.
6	BANYO QUEEN
7	CLOSED
8	ANIMAL

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1	A.I.
2	SCARY MOVIE 2
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5	PAREHAS ANG LABAN
6	BANYO QUEEN

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2	KNIGHT'S TALE
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3 (DTS) ENEMY AT THE GATES
4 GOLD (DTS) A.I.
5 GOLD (DOLBY) ENEMY AT THE GATES
6 GOLD (SDDS) RUSH HOUR 2
7 GOLD (DOLBY) SCARY MOVIE 2
8 BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
9 BANYO QUEEN
10 MANO MANO 2

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2
3 (DTS)
4
5
6 (DTS)
Golden Pearl THX

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2 A.I.
3 MANO MANO 2

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2 BANYO QUEEN
3 BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL) KNIGHT'S TALE
5 A.I.

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1 BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
2 BUKAS MAY LIGAYA
3 MANO MANO 2
4 BANYO QUEEN
5 SCARY MOVIE 2
6 KNIGHT'S TALE
7 RESERVE
8 RESERVE

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ENEMY AT THE GATES

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2 PLANET OF THE APES

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2 MANO MANO 2
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4

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3 RESERVE
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5 A.I.
6 MANO MANO 2
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8 (SDDS) KNIGHT'S TALE
9 (DOLBY) SCARY MOVIE 2

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2 BANYO QUEEN

Grand Central (Caloocan) tel 364.3781
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3 MANO MANO 2
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5 BANYO QUEEN
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7 (DTS) ENEMY AT THE GATES
8 RUSH HOUR 2
9 A.I.

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2 BANYO QUEEN
3 MANO MANO 2
4 RUSH HOUR 2
5 (SDDS) KNIGHT'S TALE
6 BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
7 (DOLBY) SCARY MOVIE 2
8 A.I.

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2 MANO MANO 2
3 (DTS) ENEMY AT THE GATES
4 SCARY MOVIE 2
5 (SDDS) KNIGHT'S TALE

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2 BANYO QUEEN
3 RESERVE
4 MANO MANO 2

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3 MANO MANO 2

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2 SCARY MOVIE 2
3 BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
4 MANO MANO 2
5 KNIGHT'S TALE

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1 BANYO QUEEN
2 MANO MANO 2
3 KNIGHT'S TALE
4 RESERVE
5 RESERVE
6 PAREHAS ANG LABAN

Baclaran LRT — LRT CINEMA
tel 512.0115
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2 BANYO QUEEN
3 RESERVE

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2 BANYO QUEEN

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1 BANYO QUEEN
2
3
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Cinema 2000 Target Mall (Sta. Rosa Laguna) tel (049) 534.2185 / 534.2198
1 SCARY MOVIE 2
2 BANYO QUEEN
3 (DTS) ENEMY AT THE GATES

Cinema 2000 Waltermart (Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383
1 KNIGHT'S TALE
2 (DTS) BANYO QUEEN
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4 SCARY MOVIE 2

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall (Biñan) Tel. (049) 411-1146
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2 (DOLBY) KNIGHT'S TALE
3 (DTS) ENEMY AT THE GATES
4 SCARY MOVIE 2

Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771
1 RUSH HOUR 2
2 BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
3 SOON TO OPEN
4 SOON TO OPEN

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276
1 (SDDS) KNIGHT'S TALE
2 NAKED EYE
3 BANYO QUEEN
4 (DTS) MANO MANO 2

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2 BANYO QUEEN
3 (DTS) ENEMY AT THE GATES
4 SCARY MOVIE 2
5 PAREHAS ANG LABAN

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2 SCARY MOVIE 2
3 ENEMY AT THE GATES

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3 ENEMY AT THE GATES

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3 SHREK

Morales Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.9736
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2 KNIGHT'S TALE
3 PAREHAS ANG LABAN

Cabuyao
(Laguna City) tel (049) 531.4808
1 (DTS) BANYO QUEEN
2 (DTS)

Fourstep
(Cavite) tel (046) 416.2385
1 BANYO QUEEN

Emperor
(Rosario Cavite) tel (046) 438.1657
1 CROCODILE 2
2 BANYO QUEEN
3 PAREHAS ANG LABAN

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790
1 PAREHAS ANG LABAN
2 A.I.
3 BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
4 SHREK

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5	BANYO QUEEN
6	RUSH HOUR 2
7	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
8	CROCODILE 2
9	A.I.
10	SHREK

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1	A KNIGHT'S TALE
2	RUSH HOUR 2
3	CROCODILE 2
4	A.I.
5	BANYO QUEEN
6	SCARY MOVIE 2
7	ENEMY AT THE GATES

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1	MANO MANO 2
2	A KNIGHT'S TALE
3	RESERVE
4	A KNIGHT'S TALE
5	ENEMY AT THE GATES
6	BANYO QUEEN
7	ENEMY AT THE GATES
8	A.I.

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2	SCARY MOVIE 2
3	BANYO QUEEN
4	ENEMY AT THE GATES
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6	MANO MANO 2

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ALI MALL CINEPLEX-4 (SDDS)	ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-5 (DTS)	RUSH HOUR 2
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-6 (DOLBY)	ENEMY AT THE GATES
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-7 (DOLBY)	SCARY MOVIE 2
FARMERS PLAZA-1 (DOLBY)	BANYO QUEEN
FARMERS PLAZA-2 (DOLBY)	MANO MANO 2
FIESTA CARNIVAL	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
NEW FRONTIER	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
MANILA	
EASTERN	
MAXIM	CLOSED
MIRAMAR	AMORSEKO / KAMASUTRA 2001
ODEON	BANYO QUEEN
ODEON-2	CROCODILE 2
ROBEN	MANO MANO 2
TANDEM-1	SEX MEDUSA
TANDEM-2	SEX EDUCATION
TIMES	TOM RAIDER / ALONG CAME A SPIDER
QUEZON CITY	
ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	CLOSED
ACT-4	CLOSED
CORONET-2	TOMB RAIDERS / GET CARTER
QUEZON-1	MANO MANO 2
REMAR	MANO MANO 2
REMAR-2	ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE
NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA	
A	BANYO QUEEN
B	MANO MANO 2
C	
MANDALUYONG CITY	
SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA-1	ASIAN CHILDREN ARTS FESTIVAL
CINEMA-2	A KNIGHT'S TALE
CAINTA RIZAL	
STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
CINEMA-2	PAREHAS ANG LABAN
CINEMA-3	RUSH HOUR 2
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	A.I.
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	PLANET OF THE APES
CINEMA-6	SEX EDUCATION
CINEMA-7	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
CINEMA-8	KISS OF THE DRAGON
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	A.I.
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	RUSH HOUR 2
CINEMA-11 (SDDS)	A.I.
CINEMA-12	CROCODILE 2
CINEMA-14	SHREK
CINEMA-15	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
LORES	
CINEMA-2	CLOSED
CINEMA-3	CLOSED
POWER PLANT CINEMA	
CINEMA-1	SHREK
CINEMA-2	A KNIGHT'S TALE
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CINEMA-4	SCARY MOVIE 2
CINEMA-5	A KNIGHT'S TALE
CINEMA-6	ENEMY AT THE GATES
UNIWIDE METROMALL	
(LAS PIÑAS)	
CINEMA-1	RESERVE
CINEMA-2	RESERVE
CINEMA-4	RESERVE
UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL	
(PARAÑAQUE)	
CINEMA-1	WINASAK NA PANGARAP
CINEMA-2	STONE
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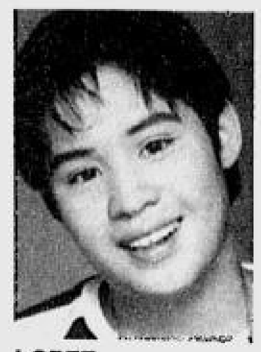

LOPEZ

Album launch in 'Asap'

FORMER child star and singer Lyle Areanne (L.A.) Lopez is back in the recording scene with an album, "Yakap," to be launched on "Asap" today.

The album is bannered by the carrier single of the same title, penned by Junior and multi-awarded composer George Canseco.

L.A. is best remembered by viewers as the grand champion in the "Eat Bulaga" contest, "That's My Boy." After winning in the kiddie tilt, he embarked on a show biz career, but bowed out of the limelight when he became a teenager.

It was only recently when Star Records gave L.A. a chance to record again.

For the launch of "Yakap" this Sunday, L.A. will perform some of the cuts from the album.

Aside from the title track, selections in the album include "Make Me a Love Song" (written by L.A.'s mom, former singer Idonnah), "Bakas ng Lumipas," "Forever Loving You," "Sa 'King Kamay," "Ikaw ang Buhay Ko" and "Ngayon Lang," among others.

L.A. also recorded his versions of Michael Jackson's hit, "Music and Me," Eddie Peregrina's "I Do Love You" and Odette Quesada's "Farewell."

After the launch, L.A. will go on a mall tour to promote the album.

He will visit SM Fairview today, SM Cebu on Sept. 28 and SM Iloilo on Sept. 29.

"Yakap" is released on CDs and cassettes under Star Records.

MORALES

Music citation

AFTER getting the coveted award as "sentimental diva for the year 2001" from the People's Network and Media Communication, singer Teresa Morales is scheduled to receive another citation as "Young Professional Awardee for Entertainment" by 2001 Peoples Choice Awards.

Teresa, who is Global Records' first contract artist, will receive the award in commemoration of the 16th founding anniversary of the Parangal ng Bayan Foundation, 7 p.m. on Sept. 17, at the Phil-Am Life Theater, United Nations Avenue, Manila.

After the success of "Kumusta Ka," a revival of Freddie Aguilar's collection of songs, Teresa is now promoting her second single, "Muli'y Binuhay Mo," composed and produced by Vehnee Saturno and arranged by Tito Cayamanda.

"Kumusta Ka" the album is distributed by IRC Music.

Air Supply returns to Manila for a one-night concert

THE HIT tandem of Graham Russell and Russell Hitchcock, more popularly known as Air Supply, brings back their magical music to Manila through a one-night concert, "Yours Truly, Air Supply Live in Manila," Oct. 2 at Araneta Coliseum.

SHOWS

Undoubtedly one of the hottest musical acts in the mid-'70s, Air Supply has churned out such hits as "Now and Forever," "All Out of Love," "Lost In Love," "Here I Am," "The One That You Love," "Making Love Out of Nothing At All" and "Sweet Dreams."

These are just a few of the many hits the duo has produced since 1975, when Australian-born Russell Hitchcock and UK native Graham Russell met while appearing together in an Australian production of "Jesus Christ Superstar."

Their first Australian single, "Love and Other Bruises," hit the No. 2 spot in the music charts in 1976, and their debut album turned gold in six weeks.

With the release of their latest album under BMG Records Pilipinas titled "Yours Truly," Air Supply will once again dominate the airwaves with an all-new repertoire of songs guaranteed to captivate their legion of fans.

In the Oct. 2 concert at the Big Dome, expect Air Supply to sing songs from their latest album interspersed with some of their biggest hits culled from their numerous gold and platinum releases.

"Yours Truly, Air Supply—Live in Manila" is made possible through the joint efforts of Uniprom Inc. and Viva Concerts.

Other sponsors are BMG Records (Pilipinas) Inc., Mossimo and Yes FM 101.1.

Concert tickets priced at P1,500, P1,250, P800, P400 and P100 are now available at all SM Ticketnet outlets and Araneta ticketnet (911-5555)

For ticket inquiries and reservations, call Viva Concerts at 413-2572.

British pop quartet

BRITISH band al, one of the fastest-rising pop groups which gained international acclaim for its No. 1 smash hit "Take On Me," is coming to perform in a series of shows in Manila and Cebu City in October.

To be presented by Philips Audio, the Manila concert billed as "al: The A List Tour," will be held on Oct. 7, 8 p.m. at the Araneta Coliseum.

The Cebu gig will be staged on Oct. 9, 7:30 p.m. at the Waterfront Hotel Ballroom.

The two-night concert series is the Philippine leg of the five-nation Asian tour of the British pop quartet to promote their latest album, "The A List." They will also visit Singapore, Malaysia, Brunei and Thailand.

Among the major supporters of the Manila show are Sony Music Philippines (official record label), MTV Asia (official music channel) and Yes FM 101.1, The Hive 100.3, dwRX 93.1, dwKC 93.9 and dwTM 89.9 (official radio stations).

Tickets are available at Ticketnet outlets in all SM Department stores and at the Araneta Coliseum. Call 911-5555 for reservation and inquiries.

"al: The A List Tour" brings for the first time to the local concert scene one of the best all-male pop bands to emerge in the international music arena, with an impressive career record highlighted by a No. 1 smash hit single, four Top Ten Singles and over 1 million records sold in the United Kingdom alone.

Composed of Paul, Christian, Mark and Ben, al burst into the pop scene in 1999 with the single "Be the First to Believe," which debuted at No. 6.

The talented pop quartet greeted the new millennium with a Valentine's single, "Like A Rose," penned by then 16-year-old Ben, which secured its fourth Top Six hit, and the Madonna-beating No.1 smash, "Take On Me," a cover version of the A-ha's '80s classic of the same title.

The spread of the band's popularity around the globe has been phenomenal, triggered mainly by its platinum album sales in the Far East and even Japan, where al trading cards are currently changing hands for fortunes over the Internet.

THE HIT-making '70s duo of Graham Russell and Russell Hitchcock will perform in a one-night concert at the Big Dome.

A1: Impressive career record in the international music scene.

Julie . . .

(From page A28)

thought well, it's bound to be just a flash in the pan.

"But after my first show, the jobs came in and little by little, I got some experience and that's how it grew."

Finding her voice

Four years ago, though, that crystalline voice was lost following surgery to remove noncancerous nodules from her vocal chords. She filed a malpractice lawsuit against the Manhattan throat specialist who operated on her vocal chords. The case was settled last year.

In our interview with her, Andrews is almost whispering to us when she answers questions.

Asked if there is a possibility of having her famous singing voice back, Andrews quickly replies, "Oh yes. There is hope. And I haven't given up being optimistic. I am still exploring any number of possibilities.

"I am still working at trying to find my voice again. It's probably going to take a while but my speaking voice is better than it was."

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THREE SEASONS
Starring: Harvey Keitel, Lola Al Guimond, Don Duong & Nguyen Ngoc Hiep
Three Seasons tells three tangentially related stories: a romance between a forward-thinking prostitute and a cyclo driver; a street kid who loses his case of cheap trinkets; and a student of a reclusive teacher/poet who has lost his fingers to leprosy. Each of the stories is quite simple, but together they create a complex, layered experience of a country simultaneously caught up in its own past, present and future.
Vietnamese-American Bui's film has the distinction of being the first American production to shoot in Vietnam since the War. A cinematic poem that works more as a reflective mood piece than a traditional story, Bui's lyrical script and Ranzier's magical camera work combine to create an original, lasting motion picture.
Language: Vietnamese w/ English sub-titles

ENTERTAINMENT

LOUIE C. CAMINO, Editor

ANDREWS

Julie Andrews every bit a queen

BY JANET SUSAN R. NEPALES

LOS ANGELES—"Well, as your Queen Clarisse, you may all be seated." Julie Andrews gamely responds with those words when a group of Hollywood journalists stands up and bows in jest to greet her as she regally steps into a room at the Four Seasons Hotel.

Oscar-winning Andrews, 65, who gave us such unforgettable films as "The Sound of Music" and "Mary Poppins" as well as Broadway musicals like "My Fair

Lady" and "Victor/Victoria," is back on the big screen as Queen Clarisse Renaldi of Genovia in Disney's latest comedy, "The Princess Diaries."

The principal cast is present for this afternoon interview but what excites us is the prospect of meeting the woman who memorably sang about the hills being alive with music. Dressed elegantly in a beige Armani suit with a white blouse, Andrews could very well be our modern day Hollywood Queen. She completes the regal look with gold earrings, a silver watch and a chic straw bag (looking like one of those made-in-the-Philippines handbags that are so chi-chi these days).

She uses a white dainty hanky to graciously wipe her forehead. She is truly a perfect example of how Hollywood royalty should behave. In real life, she is a Dame. Last year, that other queen, Elizabeth, honored Andrews with the title of the Dame of the British Empire (the female equivalent of being knighted).

Wearing the faintest make-up and sipping a cup of tea (with cream, of course, for this English actress), Andrews is definitely not the type to "let loose" in the half-hour that we are with her. "Who knows how to act like a queen but Julie herself," exclaims "The Princess Diaries" director Garry Marshall during our interview turn with him. The filmmaker behind "Pretty Woman" tells us that while filming the G-rated family movie, Andrews politely greeted some of his ideas with the line, "A queen wouldn't do that."

First and only choice

Also starring newcomer Anne Hathaway as Mia Thermopolis, the San Franciscan teener who discovers that she is a princess, heir to the throne of Genovia, a small mythical European principality, "The Princess Diaries" features Andrews as the grandmother Queen Clarisse who transforms her gawky granddaughter into a refined, elegant member of royalty (reminds us of a similar transformation by Andrews under the guidance of Rex Harrison in "My Fair Lady.")

During his turn to be interviewed, award-winning actor Hector Elizondo (Joseph, Queen Clarisse's security chief-driver), tells us, "The bonus for me is working with Julie. She raises the bar on the set. She's wonderful with young people and Anne benefited from it."

Director Marshall reveals that Andrews was his first and only choice for the role of Queen Clarisse Renaldi. "She's so talented and I'm a great admirer of her. I went eleven times to see 'My Fair Lady' in New York and she fascinated me. I said to myself, 'She's very good, whoever that girl is.' Now I am just thrilled that we are working together!"

Not only are they working together but Marshall has also been living since 1974 in the same house that Disney rented for Andrews while she was filming "Mary Poppins." And when Andrews stepped on a soundstage to film "The

Princess Diaries," it was the same one where she did "Mary Poppins."

"Karma, I tell you," she describes the strange coincidences. "When I went into that soundstage, there was a little plaque on the door that says '"Mary Poppins" was filmed here' and suddenly, I became very nostalgic."

A day at a time

Her fairytale-like 32-year-marriage to director Blake Edwards is also a rare thing in tinseltown. Andrews describes the secret of her marriage (her second) to Edwards as "taking it a day at a time and that's what we've done until now. Never to say we got it made. Never to say it's going to last forever. Just to do what we had to do each day."

Was it hard for her children (two from Edward's prior marriage, one from her first marriage to set designer Tony Walton, and two Vietnamese orphans whom she and Edwards adopted) to adjust to having celebrity-parents?

"It's difficult growing up with parents who are well-known. It must be very, very hard because you've got one of two choices. You either fold or you fight and transcend. My children, I think, have mostly transcended, thank God. How lucky they are to have done that."

She narrates a funny incident when her daughter Emma (who is now her coauthor of children's books) was still young and they were out shopping at a department store. "They had a huge Mary Poppins display. Emma was only three years old then and she said, 'Oh look, there's Mommy!' and somebody nearby said, 'Oh, isn't that little girl sweet. She thinks Mary Poppins is her mother.'

"Then, there was also this incident when an overly eager fan followed me to the ladies room at Saks 5th and knocked on the door and said, 'Excuse me, are you Mary Poppins?'"

Real jewels

Did Andrews herself ever fantasize about being a member of royalty?

"Sure. It happened to Grace Kelly. I think every woman hopes. It's a metaphor really—if not of becoming a princess, certainly of realizing a dream of some kind. I think we all hope that, don't we? It sounds so Pollyannaish. I think my dream was I had no idea what I wanted to do. I only knew that if I did it, I wanted to do it very well and I used to hope that I could."

Andrews was only portraying a queen on the screen but the tiara and jewelry she wore were real. "That crown was worth over a million dollars," she states. "I learned fast how good it feels. There is such a huge difference between the real thing and the fake stuff. Real jewelry makes you shine and glow, I'm ashamed to say. I had a bodyguard who was six paces behind me, no matter what I do. And the minute a filming day was finished, he would say, 'Excuse me, may I have them?'"

Andrews, who started performing on stage at age five, started singing when she was seven or eight. "But it was more because it was there; because my parents did discover that I had this 'freak voice.' I thought it was just a flash in the pan."

She calls it the "freak voice" because "I could sing so high," like "four octaves high, and extremely powerful that dogs came for miles around, you know, that kind of thing and then I

JULIE/ A27

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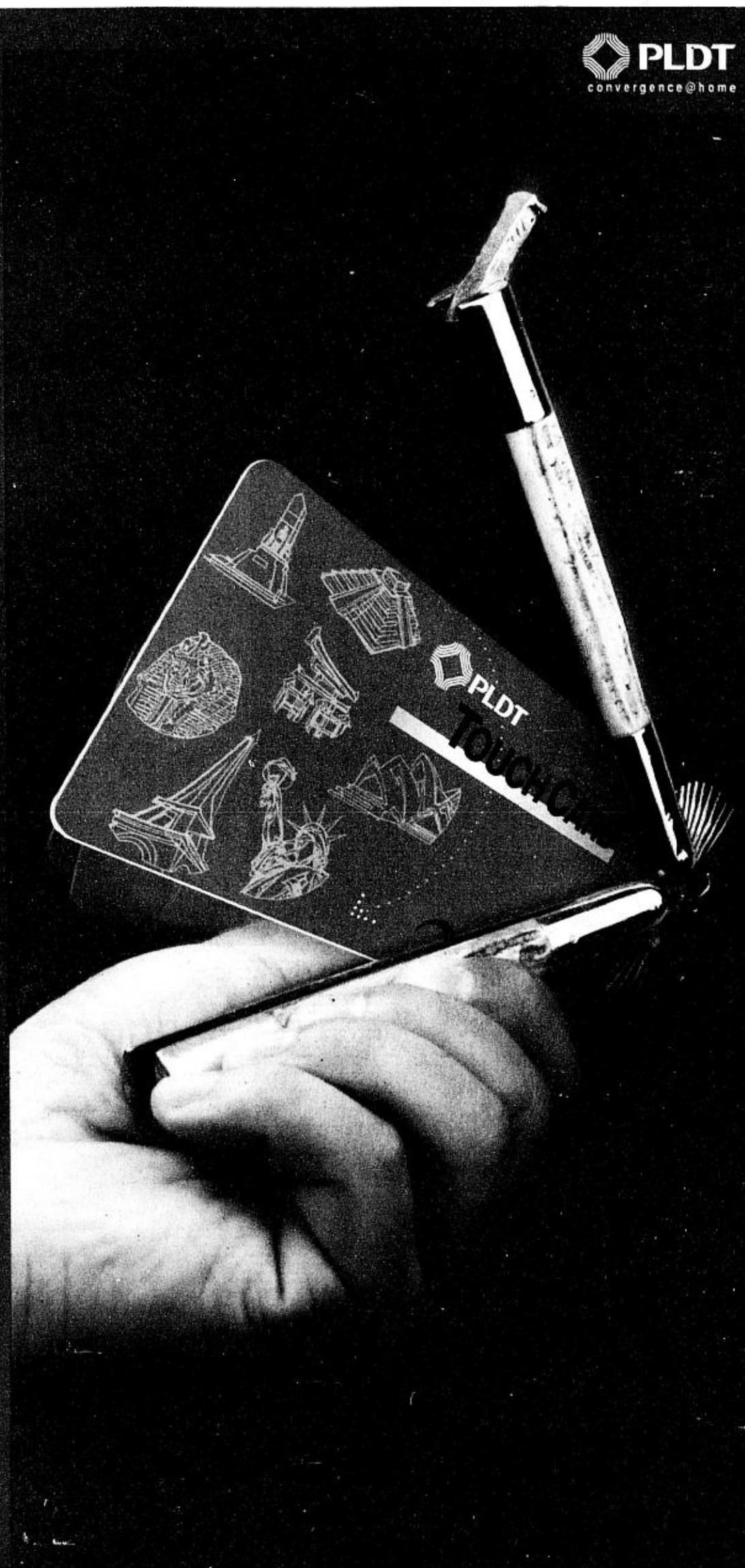

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SundayBIZ
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THE ACTIVIST and the scholar. A young Pete Prado in 1977.

With ₱900, ex-DOTC chief felt like a king

BY TINA ARCEO-DUMLAO

FORMER Transportation and Communications Secretary Pete Nicomedes Prado, the third of 10 children, has always been a good student. He was salutatorian in grade school, valedictorian in high school, and then a scholar through college at the Ateneo in the late '60s, and the University of the Philippines where he took postgraduate studies in 1971.

FIRST JOB

Prado was able to pull through with good grades even if he was always wanting in terms of good manners in right conduct. Even as early as grade school, his teacher commented that he was "a bright boy with a great future but very naughty."

As a college student, he was actively involved in the student movement, forcing the Ateneo to let him go. He was so active that he was charged during martial law with almost everything from arson to murder.

"I think the only thing they did not charge me with was rape," he says.

He eventually lay low from the student movement and because he was a "pretty smart kid" as he describes himself, his professor at the UP recruited this ex-Jesuit seminarian to work with him on a United

WITH/ B5

'Wagwag' fashion pushed for Pinoys

BY VINCENT CABREZA
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

BAGUIO CITY—Global recession has not made life easier for any one, even for the Makati business set, but Baguio's omnipresent *wagwag* (rummage) industry is showing a more cost-effective way of, at least, looking Wall Street-sharp.

Just check out the new *wagwag* line displayed at the city's first rummage festival last week: a checkered Prada Scots suit for P380, a pair of conservative Gias Italia footwear for P180, a body-fit dark-blue Versace blouse for only P50.

Baguio's former underground trade went all out recently to promote the second-hand business' fashion sense in a series of fashion shows that highlighted the latest styles from Hong Kong.

Beverly Somera, a *wagwag* dealer, said domestic tourists, who frequent the city's rummage houses, have sparked a huge demand here for top-of-the-line signature garments for use in offices and in formal business functions.

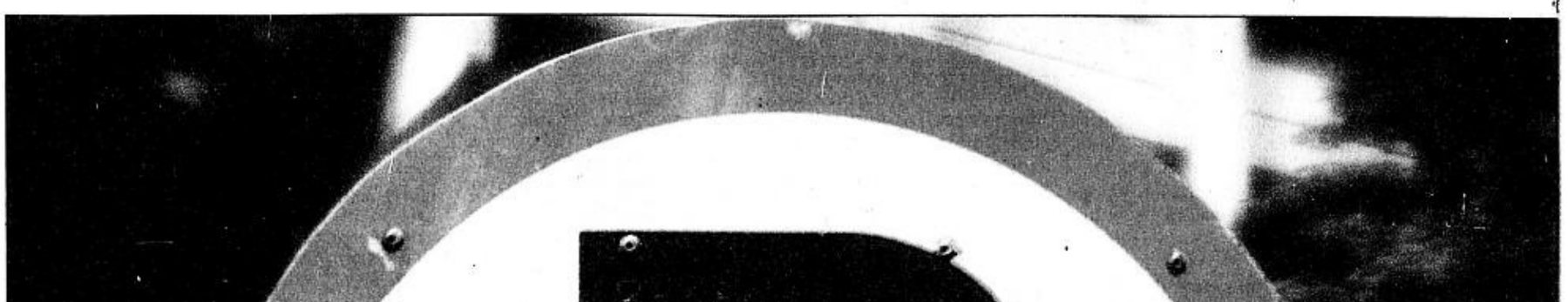
And the city's controversial industry has just obliged them, Somera said, by splitting the trade into a high-end line and a low-end line.

The high-end line exclusively markets second-hand signature brands to "the discerning members of corporate Philippines" while the low-end line caters to tourists from the lowlands.

The *wagwag* industry has blossomed into Baguio's official tourist attraction, from a series of side street rummage houses in 1995 that sold discarded clothes dumped in Hong Kong.

This underground trade is now a glamorous P1.2 billion-a-day retail industry that has taken over the very center of Baguio's business districts, despite lingering questions about its impact on the local garments business.

WAGWAG/ B3



WAGWAG stall owner proudly displays two of her cheongsams on sale. TOOTS SOBERANO

NAME brand items like this Loule Vuitton travel bag are the new hot items sold in Baguio's "wagwag" stalls. EVE SPIRITU

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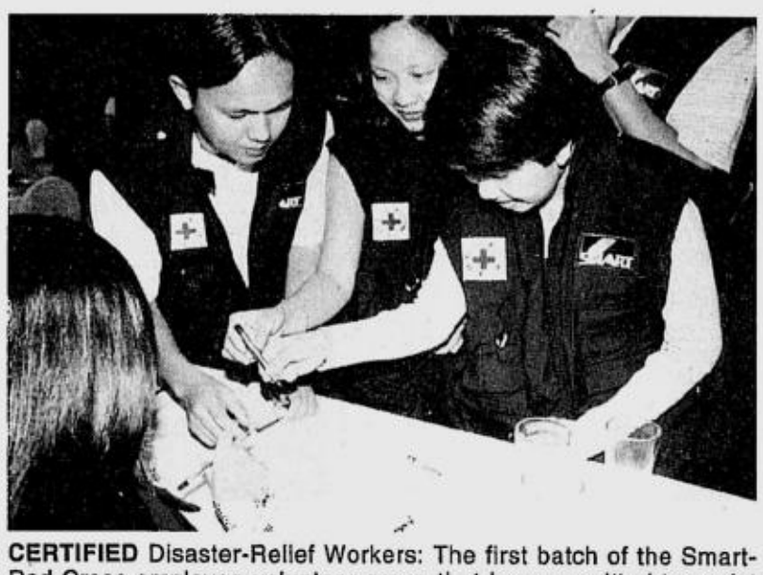
IN YOUR FACE

BY L. P. LEVISTE

IT'S an uphill battle but Securities and Exchange Commission chair Lilia R. Bautista has no choice but to continue looking for ways to inject some activity into the listless stock market. But with the recent attack on the United States and the fallout on the world's financial markets, her job will be even more difficult than it already is.



CERTIFIED Disaster-Relief Workers: The first batch of the Smart-Red Cross employee volunteer group that has committed to assist the Philippine National Red Cross in its disaster-relief operations.

Words are a potent force to inspire hope, strike terror

'The Irrepressible Churchill'
Compiled by Kay Halle
Robson Books, 2000 reprint

BY DANTE M. VELASCO

THE TRAGEDY that befell the American people—when two passenger planes crashed into the twin towers of the World Trade Center, when one plane hit and exploded on the Pentagon, and when one other jetliner crashed in the state of Pennsylvania—assumed such a depth in human tragedy and such a scale of destruction that officials and reporters admitted that they were at a loss for words.

EXECUTIVE READ

President George W. Bush read a hastily prepared statement that failed to communicate the severely seared American soul, especially when he called the terrorists "folks"!?. Others used superlatives like "unbelievable," "the work of madmen," and the ever-ready label of "terrorists."

Words were one of the few ways to communicate the shared grief and agony of the entire humankind, the shared fierce tears and anger of the world, and the shared resolve and courage—not only to bring justice and quick retribution but also to rebuild one's hope and faith with one another.

How we wish we had someone during these times who could rally the troops to fight a common enemy; one who, with words like "with blood, sweat and tears," could unite an entire nation to resist the invaders; and who, when one battle was won, could draw from his magnificent arsenal of words and thus declare: "This was their finest hour."

I am referring to the inimitable Winston Churchill, whom the book calls "The Irrepressible Churchill." There was no television then, no CNN to capture his sound bites and his smirk. He used an old-fashioned radio technology, and—with his booming voice dominating the stutter of guns, roar of fighter planes and endless siren sound—he succeeded in steeling the resolve of nations to win a catastrophic war.

This book (bought in Bangkok a few months ago), written by journalist Kay Halle, who tracked down Churchill for 30 years, shows that Churchill already had the gift of gab and wit early in life—serving him in good stead throughout his tumultuous but no less heroic career.

Some samplers of Churchill's admirable turn of phrase abound in this rare book (you must check Amazon.com for it, and it's well worth the web surfing, if I may add).

The wit of Churchill was demonstrated in this famous exchange with American-born Nancy, Lady Astor, when both were weekend guests at Blenheim.

Lady Astor said: "Winston, if I were your wife I'd put poison in your coffee." And the famous Churchillian reply was classic: "If I were your husband, Nancy, I'd take it."

Churchill usually always had the last word in any argument. For example, when a former officer of the Admiralty, Lord Charles Beresford, criticized Churchill, he didn't escape the wordsmith's acid tongue: "He (Beresford) can best be described as one of those orators who; before they get up, do not know what they are going to say; when they are speaking, do not know what they are saying; and when they have sat down, do not know what they have said."

On his war rhetoric, the book has a lot to offer the readers. This one quote should be lesson on strategy, when Churchill commented on navy estimates on both sides. He said:

"The offensive power of modern battleships is out of all proportion to their defensive power . . . If you want to make a true picture in your mind of a battle between great modern ironclad ships, you must not think of it as if it were two men in armour striking at each other with heavy swords. It is more like a battle between two egg-shells striking each other with hammers . . . The importance of hitting first, and hitting hardest and keeping on hitting . . . really needs no clearer proof." (Hear ye, anti-terrorist force!)

Churchill, in fact, has something to say about the value of an aggrieved country to respond from a high moral ground and a sense of righteous indignation, if I may add:

"Moral force is, unhappily, no substitute for armed force, but it is a very great reinforcement." In another quote, he says: "In war, you don't have to be nice—you only have to be right."

His advice about dealing with the Germans then could be useful to those hunting the perpetrators of the airline crashes. He is quoted thus in the book: "Those who fight the Germans fight a stubborn and resourceful foe, a foe in every way worthy of the doom prepared for him." Substitute the names, and you've got a contemporary thought, especially for those driven by fanaticism. In fact, our wordsmith defines "fanatic" as "one who can't change his mind and won't change the subject."

And, if America does go to war, she must be driven by another quotable quote from Churchill: "If we win, nobody will care. If we lose, there will be nobody to care."

This is the strategic equivalent of the advice I knew since childhood which I now paraphrase: "Win and the world wins with you; lose and you lose alone."

God bless America, everyone now says, and we join the world wholeheartedly. The words of support came even from known critics if not enemies. But allies America needs right now. And this quote is timely, when Churchill spoke about England's ally—France:

"There is only one thing worse than fighting with allies, and that is fighting without them."

The entire world now views the American people with a new eye. There is admiration for their selflessness, their readiness to close ranks—the calm with which they pick up the pieces and the steely resolve to hunt the terrorists. Churchill began doubting Americans, but actually gave allowance for their courage and determination. After the bombing of Pearl Harbor and the announcement that the United States was entering World War II, Churchill had grudging admiration for Americans after all:

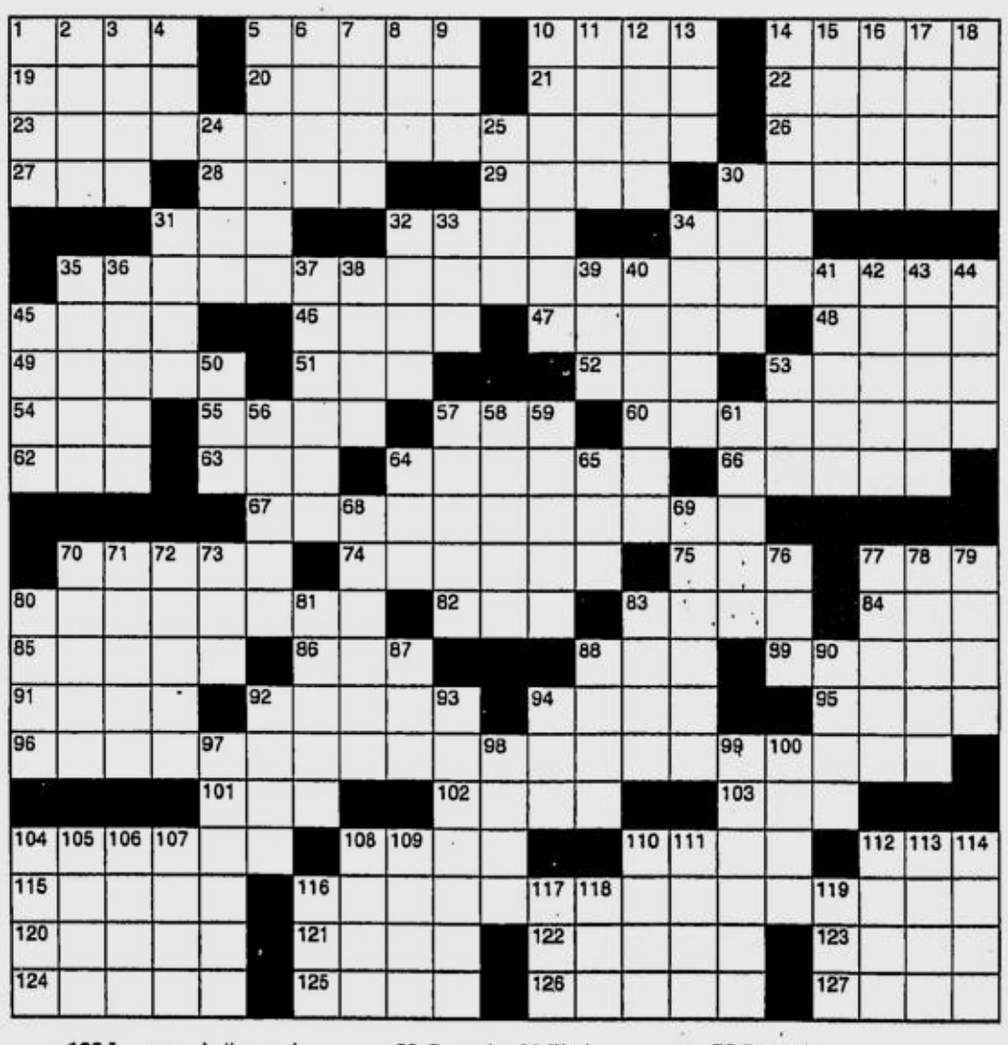
"Silly people and there were many . . . might discount the force of the United States. Some said they were soft, others that they would never be united. They would fool around at a distance. They would never come to grips. They would never stand bloodletting. They would be just a vague blurr on the horizon to friend and foe. Now we should see the weakness of this numerous but remote, wealthy, and talkative people. But I had studied the American Civil War . . . American blood flowed in my veins."

This book has an abundance of quotes and background of these in the checkered life of this great man. The book, according to "The Times," is one "to brighten the dullest moments." Actually it is also meant to brighten one's hope whenever it is needed.

To his dying day, Churchill was his witty self. The book says: "As he lay dying in the darkened room of a London House at 8 Hyde Park Gate, he said about life: "I am bored with it all." He quickly added with, maybe, his last breath: "But the journey has been enjoyable and worth making—once!" If you are at a loss for words, check out Winston Churchill. He had the witty words and the eloquent phrases all his irrepressible life. *(dantemv@i-next.net)*

SUNDAY CROSSWORD

MAN-IPULATION



ACROSS

1 Like some grapes
5 Odysseus' dog
10 Ebb's partner
14 "La Boheme" setting
19 Comfort
20 Talk big
21 Heart burn?
22 Dodge
23 Start of a remark by 116 Across
26 Thirteen, to a baker
27 Paul Newman role
28 Cranny's companion
29 Nutritional need
30 Least experienced
31 "— favor"
32 Vino center
34 "— -Tiki"
35 Part 2 of remark
45 Ruth's husband
46 Do nothing
47 City on the Rhone
48 "Typee" sequel
49 It's kept in a quiver
51 First lady?
52 Clean-air org.
53 "Stupid —" ('58 hit)
54 Mineral suffix
55 Like some buildup
57 — -tzu
60 Unemployment
62 Highlander's hat
63 "Not — can help it!"
64 Actor McGavin
66 MacDowell of "Green Card"
67 Part 3 of remark
70 Romance
74 Cooling application
75 Logical letters
77 Record players?
80 Most cunning
82 Went jogging
83 Spotless
84 "Bali —"
85 Thrill
86 Spinal —
88 Actress Zetterling
89 Sock
91 Blanchett of "Elizabeth"
92 Lose control
94 Successor
95 Sicilian rumbler
96 End of remark
101 Tavern
102 Hoarse horse?
103 "Captain —" ('92 film)
104 Teem
108 — au lait
110 Face shape
112 Use the microwave
115 Inlet
116 Speaker of remark
120 Try a mouthful
121 Arkansas' state tree
122 Monitor message
123 Lawrence's "— and Lovers"
124 Philanthropist Brooke
125 Part of DA
126 Chili con —
127 It may be square

DOWN

1 Actor Green
2 Neighbor of Molokai
3 Hand-me-down
4 CSA soldier
5 Soak up
6 Printing process
7 Stare stupidly
8 Dos Passos trilogy
9 Hog heaven?
10 Esther Rolle's birthplace
11 Trademark design
12 Hot spot?
13 Word with suit or blanket
14 Know-it-all
15 Profess
16 Bring down the house
17 Fateful 15th
18 Conveyed
24 Baseball's Slaughter
25 Tenor Schipa
30 Rogers and Clark
31 "The Godfather" author
32 Carpenter's tool
33 Canonized Mlle.
34 Make some dough
35 It comes from the heart
36 Seraglio
37 Fashion model Kim
38 McHale's outfit
39 Mine find
40 Lofty
41 Basenji or beagle
42 JFK Library architect
43 Din
44 "The — Must Be Crazy" ('80 film)
45 Angler's danglers
50 1914-18 letters
53 100 yrs.
56 TV's "Hearts —"
57 Light tool
58 Oranjestad's locale
59 Phantom instrument
61 Time for chores?
64 Bashful's buddy
65 Bird-to-be
68 "Clash of the —" ('81 film)
69 Pipsqueak
70 Islamic deity
71 Mazda model
72 Mid-size band
73 Arthur Godfrey prop
76 Cal. page
77 Delhi wrap
78 Day trip
79 "The Ramayana" heroine
80 Faction
81 Besmirch
83 Settled a debt
87 Orchestra's place
88 Blend
90 Boxer Spinks
92 Await judgment
93 Medicinal plant
94 Garden implement
97 Thwart
98 Hurler Hershiser
99 Prophet
100 Barbie or Ken
104 Actress Nielsen
105 Nonvenomous snakes
106 Boot out
107 Till
108 Voucher
109 "— No Sunshine" ('71 hit)
110 Barbra's "Funny Girl" co-star
111 Like Narcissus
112 Utah National Park
113 — Domini
114 Nuisance
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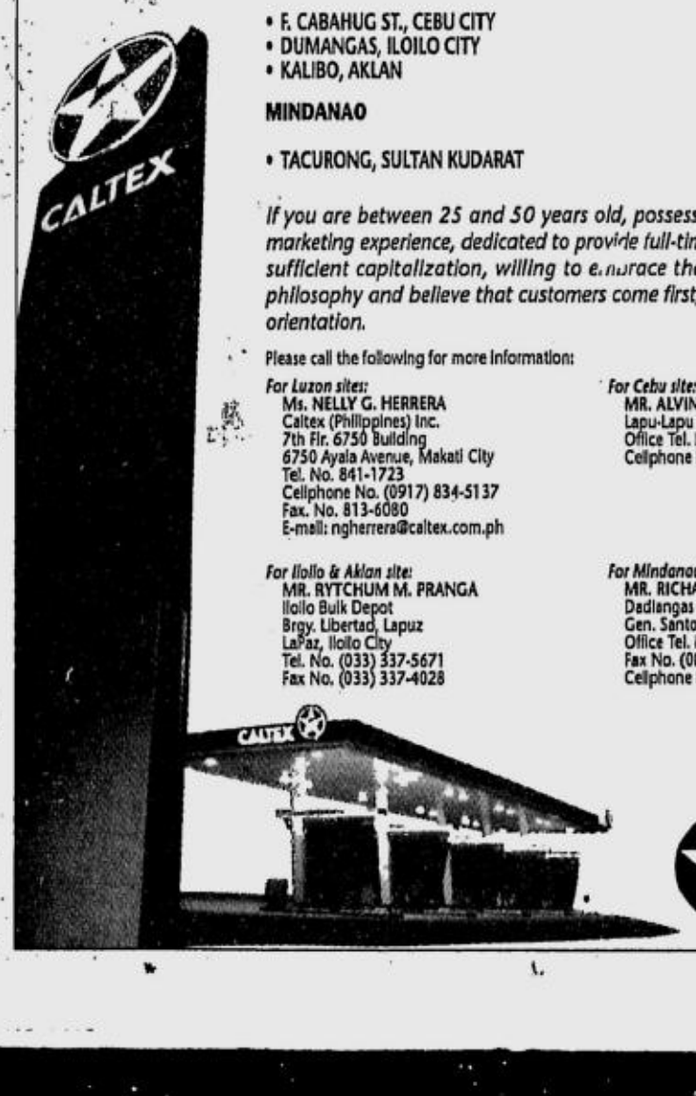

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CALTEX

Thai Airways faces rough weather ahead of privatization

BANGKOK—For an airline that describes itself as "Smooth as Silk," it's been a rough year for Thai Airways.

As if financial losses, political meddling and quarreling between pilots and workers weren't enough, the airline also has confronted two bomb threats and one exploding plane.

Fed up with the problems, Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra sacked the airline's president on Thursday and forced the entire board of directors to resign before an expected management restructuring. A new board is expected to be appointed in 30 days.

Analysts say that, this time around, the national carrier has to be serious about resolving internal problems if it wants to compete in an increasingly globalized aviation industry.

"It has gone from being good to a mediocre airline," said Imtiaz Muqbil, a travel industry analyst and writer based in Bangkok.

Other state-run Asian airlines such as Malaysian, Garuda, Philippines and Air India are also being bogged down by their governments.

"These carriers will have to make a choice. If they don't become properly run commercial corporations . . . they will end up being regional operators, playing second string to big players," said Tom Ballantyne, the chief correspondent of Orient Aviation, a trade magazine published in Hong Kong.

Thai's leading competitors are Singapore Airlines and Cathay Pacific, which were the third and fourth most profitable airlines in the world during the financial year 1999-2000, according to Air Transport World, a global trade magazine published in Washington D.C.

Singapore Airline's net profit in that period was $742 million. Cathay's was $641.691 million. Thai ranked 19th, with net profits of $113 million. But since then revenues have slid dramatically and the company lost 935 million baht ($20 million) from October 2000 to March 2001. The airline's accumulated debt reached nearly $3 billion.

In Thailand, the need for improvement takes greater urgency as the state-owned airline gets ready for a long-awaited privatization plan, including the sale of a minority 13-percent stake to a foreign airline later this year.

Thai Airways' service, punctuality and safety are still rated one of the best in Asia—apart from three delayed flights, customers have not been affected—but behind the scenes the airline has struggled with self-inflicted problems.

Muqbil and other analysts blame them on excessive government interference. In some instances, powerful politicians have used the airline almost as a personal toy.

THAI/ B5

'Wagwag' fashion...

(From page B1)

Somera said the new *wagwag* signature line would be sold at a "slightly higher price" than the average *wagwag* pile of Hong Kong goods.

"But the cost is still far cheaper than these items' retail cost," she said.

For example, *wagwag* retailers have started packaging business suits for P1,500. The *wagwag* houses now line up sets of Fabio Cariglia coats, shirts and pants.

Other *wagwag* houses capitalize on combinations of Fabio Cariglia coats, French-made Cour Carre shirts and ties, and a pair of Mau Uomo leather shoes for the same price.

In fact, Somera admitted, the new high-end *wagwag* wants to be billed as the newest Euro-fashion houses here because of these top-of-the-line Italian and Paris-bred outfits.

"We are actually relying on the latest Hong Kong fashion, so what we sell here, and what Filipinos now wear are actually Hong Kong inspired. That means these sets of clothes are very much in style," Somera said.

She said most *wagwag* outfits came from overseas Filipino workers and members of the Hong Kong-based Salvation Army.

"The Salvation Army has been selling used clothes, which they cannot give to communities of Vietnam or Africa. These are suits, which are too hot for African farmers, or are too big for Vietnamese refugees. So the Salvation Army sells the clothes and uses the money to buy them food and medicine. There is nothing sinister about these transactions, and Baguio ends up with boxes and boxes of useful items," she said.

The downside, however, is Hong Kong's fashion cycle.

"Hong Kong styles, of course, follow their own season. So during their fall season, they were discarding woolen skirts and jackets, which we could not sell here because it was our summer. So many times, we actually gamble that the latest fashion is suited to Filipinos," Somera said.

Worse for the *wagwag* trader is the fact that not all *wagwag* boxes carry signature items.

But this predicament has been solved by the new high-end *wagwag* dealership, which buys brand-name items from the *wagwag* houses for exclusive retail downtown.

Somera said most *wagwag* boxes are dominated by Louis Vuitton, Coach bags, Prada, Versace and Gucci items. Most of these items were displayed during the *wagwag* festival here last week.

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
SUBIC BAY METROPOLITAN AUTHORITY
Subic Bay Freeport Zone, Philippines

Invitation for Bids

Date : September 12, 2001
World Bank Loan/Credit No. : 4111 PH

1. The Government of the Republic of the Philippines through the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority ("SBMA") has received a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, towards the cost of the Second Subic Bay Freeport Project, and intends to apply part of the funds to cover eligible payments under the Contract for the Perimeter Security Fence and All-Weather Service Road Project. Bidding is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the Guidelines Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits published in January 1995, revised January and August 1996, September 1997 and January 1999.
2. The SBMA invites sealed bids from eligible bidders, for the 19-month duration of the contract (7 months construction period plus 12 months Defects Liability Period) for the Perimeter Security Fence and All-Weather Service Road Project, to undertake among others the repair and rehabilitation of existing fence and drainage structures; repair, rehabilitation and widening of existing asphalt road and construction of new Jadjad bridge, physical fence and new one-lane service road.

   The minimum **post qualification** requirements include:

   (a) The minimum required annual volume of construction work for the successful bidder in any of the last five years shall be PhP 400,000,000.00 or equivalent.
   (b) Experience as prime contractor in the construction of at least two works of a nature and complexity equivalent to the Works over the last 10 years.
   (c) The bidder must show evidence that he owns or has access to (through hire, lease, purchase agreement or other means) the following essential equipment to be made available for the contract: concrete batching plant, concrete transit mixer, asphalt plant, truck mounted concrete pump, motorized grader, vibratory roller, dump truck, wheel loader, truck mounted crane-hydraulic telescopic boom, asphalt distributor, asphalt paver and bulldozer.
   (d) Must have the necessary Financial Reports for each year for the last five (5) years including balance sheets, profit and loss statements and auditor's reports showing a sound financial position.
3. Bidding documents are available for collection from Monday, **17th September 2001**:

   Building 222, Dewey Avenue
   Subic Bay Freeport Zone

   upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Php 20,000.00 or US$400.00 at the:

   Treasury Department
   Building 229, Waterfront Road
   Subic Bay Freeport Zone

   An additional amount of US$ 50.00 will be charged to overseas contractors who wish to obtain their documents by courier. The SBMA will promptly dispatch the documents by courier but under no circumstances will SBMA be responsible for late deliveries or loss of the documents so mailed.

   Interested bidders may obtain further information at the office of the:

   Project Manager
   Building 222, Dewey Avenue
   SBFZ, Olongapo City
   Tel. No. (047) 252-45-43
   Fax No. (047) 252-45-44
4. Bids shall be valid for a period of 120 days after Bid opening and must be accompanied by a bid security of not less than PhP 4,800,000.00 currency, and shall be delivered to the address below on or before 2:00 PM of **October 31, 2001** after which time the bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders who wish to attend.

   PPMD Conference Room
   Building 255, Barryman Road, SBFZ
5. A pre-bid conference will be held on **September 27, 2001** at 2:00 PM at the Conference Room of Bldg. 222, Dewey Avenue, Subic Bay Freeport Zone.

(Sgd.) **CHITO M. CRUZ**
Sr. D.A. for Support Services and PBAC Chairman

(PDI – Sept. 15, 16 & 17, 2001)

Republic of the Philippines
Supreme Court
Manila

INVITATION TO BID

Sealed bids for the following motor vehicles of the Supreme Court on "AS IS, WHERE IS" and "CASH AND CARRY" bases will be accepted by the Committee on Bids at exactly 2:00 o'clock p.m. on October 10, 2001.

Item No. 1 - One unit -	MITSUBISHI L-300 VAN Plate No. SEA-130, Diesel Minimum Bid - Php 53,500.00
Item No. 2 - One unit -	TOYOTA TAMARAW FX Plate No. SDN-164, Gasoline Minimum Bid - Php 29,730.00
Item No. 3 - One unit -	TOYOTA TAMARAW FX Plate No. SEF-718, Diesel Minimum Bid - Php 36,950.00
Item No. 4 - One unit -	TOYOTA TAMARAW FX Plate No. SEF-728, Diesel Minimum Bid - Php 36,950.00
Item No. 5 - One unit -	TOYOTA TAMARAW FX Plate No. SEF-837, Diesel Minimum Bid - Php 36,950.00
Item No. 6 - One unit -	NISSAN MAXIMA Plate No. SDC-242, Gasoline Minimum Bid - Php 49,470.00
Item No. 7 - One unit -	NISSAN VANETTE Plate No. SED-506, Gasoline Minimum Bid - Php 57,500.00
Item No. 8 - One unit -	NISSAN VANETTE Plate No. SED-336, Gasoline Minimum Bid - Php 57,500.00
Item No. 9 - One unit -	NISSAN VANETTE Plate No. SED-316, Gasoline Minimum Bid - Php 57,500.00
Item No. 10 - One unit -	NISSAN VANETTE Plate No. SED-242, Gasoline Minimum Bid - Php 57,500.00

Prescribed bid forms, terms and conditions may be obtained from the Office of the Secretariat, Committee on Bids, Supreme Court, Taft Avenue cor. Padre Faura, Manila.

Subject properties may be inspected anytime during office hours.

The Supreme Court reserves the right to reject any or all bids and offers, waive any defect or informality therein, or accept any bid which it may consider to be advantageous and beneficial to the government.

(Sgd.) **JOSE P. PEREZ**
Chairman
Committee on Bids

(PDI–Sept. 16, 2001)

Department of Agriculture
CARABALLO & SOUTHERN CORDILLERA
AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
A Programme for Self-Reliance
Bayombong 3700, Nueva Vizcaya
Telefax No. (6378) 321-3611; Tel. Nos. (6378) 321-2605, 321-4128
E-mail: cascade_erp@hotline.com

INVITATION FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

One Local Technical Assistant/Specialist in the Assessment of Basic Health Care Delivery and Nutrition Projects

In the scope of its Basic Health Care Service Delivery and Nutrition Programs under the Social Development Component, CASCADE is currently seeking a qualified and experienced Specialist in the field of Project Assessment, Monitoring and Evaluation. CASCADE is operating in the uplands of Nueva Vizcaya, Benguet and Nueva Ecija.

Applications are invited from qualified candidates with highly relevant experience in Participatory Assessment; Monitoring & Evaluation specifically in the development of performance and proxy indicators in the field of health and health-related fields. The candidate must be physically fit to undertake extensive trips in the highlands; broad knowledge on Project Management. He/she must be computer literate, the bringing of a personal notebook is highly recommended. Experiences working with national and international rural development programs particularly in the field of community health service would be of great advantage. Experience working with EU and other foreign-assisted projects (FAPs) would also be of advantage.

Expressions of interest together with full CVs and other pertinent documents in support of the application for the above-mentioned areas of specialization should be submitted no later than September 24, 2001. Only qualified candidates will receive an acknowledgement and be given the full Terms of Reference (TOR).

CASCADE is an equal opportunity employer and actively encourages women to apply.

All correspondence should be addressed to the following:

THE PROJECT CO-DIRECTORS
DA-CASCADE
Bonfal West, 3700 Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya
Tel. No. (078) 321-2605 and 321-4128
Telefax No. (078) 321-3611
Email: cascade_erp@hotmail.com

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811-4370

KALAW
528-0213, 527-3342

MEGAMALL
635-0219, 635-0220

People, Events & Products

ARIES B. ESPINOSA, Assistant Editor

TEAM JOURNEYS, SHELL SELECT TEAM UP

Everyone can now get Team Journeys application forms at all Shell Select Outlets. Don't miss this chance to win a Ford Sport Track pick-up truck, or see the Great Wall of China, Ang Angkorwat, the Taj Mahal, and other great places in Asia. Attach a 400-word essay on 'Why I Want to Travel?' and drop at the Team Journeys' boxes. Team Journeys Philippines is a travel adventure contest that will take eight lucky winners on a mission to collect as many souvenirs from six countries–China, Cambodia, Vietnam, Thailand, Nepal and India, and come home with the most money. Shown are (seated, from left) Fevi Yu, team leader of Team Journeys and Nick Ko of Pilipinas Shell Logistics Group during the contract signing for all participating Shell Select outlets. Flanking them are Ronald Guanzon of Team Journeys and Steff Cua of Pilipinas Shell. The eight contestants will be divided into two groups, Team Pinatubo and Team Mayon, of four members each. Each group must then work together for a month and a half, using people skills, common sense, map reading and budgeting, among others, to get them through the contest. The group that passes the last check in India with the most money and souvenirs from the adventure will win a Ford Sport Track for each of its members.

3M EXTENDS ASSISTANCE TO MAYON EVACUEES

3M Philippines recently donated 3M dust respirators as a sign of support to the disaster team and evacuees from the Mayon Volcano eruption. This project was made possible through coordination with the American Chamber (Amcham) Foundation and Corporate Network for Disaster Response. The 3M dust respirators provide the best protection for Mayon residents and relief workers exposed to particles, smoke and dust. Present during the product donation turnover were (from left) Hilda Tabar-Cleofe, executive director of Amcham Foundation, Monet Fababaer, representative of Corporate Network for Disaster Response and Carla Tabuena, business team leader for 3M occupational safety products.

PROGRAMS FROM STI STUDES

STI, one of the largest IT education networks in the world, was one of the exhibitors in the recently concluded 'E-Services: An Outsourcing and Subcon Exhibition' held at the Philippine Trade Training Center in Manila. The STI booth, shown above, showcased high-grade computer programs designed by STI students from STI branches in Southwoods, Edsa-Crossing and Bacoor. STI's participation in the exhibit is part of its efforts to commemorate its 18th anniversary last August 21.

Makro launches B2B

PILIPINAS Makro Inc. recently launched its Internet-based business-to-business (B2B) program, providing access to information that was not previously available to the distribution trade. Considered a first in the country's e-commerce technology, Makro's B2B boasts of an exclusive, private exchange of business information between Makro and its suppliers.

B2B was designed to make business transactions between Makro and its suppliers more efficient and accurate. Among other things, B2B provides online information on such business concerns as delivery and invoice status, payment and collection, inventory management, sales statistics and stock levels. All these translate to increasing efficiencies and flexibility in the management of stock level, production and raw material procurement.

"The Makro B2B concept was born as a result of the great opportunities that the Internet boom presented," Efren Rueda, Makro president and managing director, remarked during opening ceremonies attended by the major manufacturing companies.

Riding on the capabilities of the Internet to tap markets globally, the regional Makro Asia office designed the Makro B2B system in 1999. It was first launched in Thailand in 2000 and was met with much success, with over 300 suppliers now logged in simultaneously to the B2B system, Rueda explained.

In the Philippines, it was formally introduced to the trade last June. Orientation sessions were conducted at the Makro head office attended by representatives from sales, finance, and information technology of Makro's trade partners. As of last count, 90 percent of total suppliers have subscribed to the B2B.

Pilipinas Makro Inc. operates a large chain of volume-driven, low-cost, low price self-service cash-and-carry trading outlets. First established in the country in 1995, Makro offers a wide variety of food and non-food products at the lowest possible prices. The Philippines is part of the six-country Makro Asia conglomerate and now has a total of seven stores: five in Luzon (Cainta, Imus, Novaliches, Sucat and Manila Harbor Center) and two stores in Cebu and Davao.

Equitable PCI Bank FastPhone: your very own 24-hour bank

HIGH on every client's wish list is accessibility to their bank's services 24 hours a day, seven days a week, everytime, everywhere. Now, Equitable PCIBank, one of the country's largest banks, offers FASTPhone – the clients' very own 24-hour bank in their offices or even in their own homes.

Easily accessible through 84-911 (within Metro Manila) or 1-800-188-84911 toll-free (for those in the provinces), FASTPhone can be used for an array of banking transactions. Through FastPhone, you can pay your bills (available only from 7 a.m. to 12 midnight) to over 50 merchants–from utility companies to telecoms, credit card, and insurance companies.

Other services available include balance inquiry, funds transfer, inquiry about your last nine transactions, changing your FASTPhone access codes, checkbook re-order, request for current statement of account request via fax, request for copy of statement of account as far back as a year ago for pick-up at the branch, and request for transfer to the Equitable CardNetwork Hello Service. From 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily, you can also talk to a Call Specialist to report and request for blocking a lost or stolen ATM card or for any other assistance or inquiries.

Just enroll your accounts in any of Equitable PCIBank's over 400 branches nationwide to enjoy the flexibility and convenience that only a 24-hour bank can do. No queues. No hassles. Only the pleasure of banking every time, everywhere.

Metrobank named top fund manager

METROBANK's Trust Banking Group was recently named top fund manager for 2000 for full discretion accounts (with less than five accounts enrolled) by the 65th Watson Wyatt survey of retirement fund performance in the country. In the same category, the bank also recorded the highest average return on investment (ROI) performance among the 10 participating fund managers.

Watson Wyatt Philippines Inc. is the largest global human resource consulting firm in the Asia Pacific region.

Despite low interest rates for the past 20 months and the stock market still in the doldrums, Metrobank Trust managed to achieve an average net yield of 11 to 13 percent per annum for 2000 and 13 to 15 percent p.a. for the first quarter of this year for its tax-exempt accounts like employee benefit trust, school funds and long-term personal trust fund accounts. Taxable accounts such as pre-need trust, foundations and other personal accounts registered an average return of 11 to 13 percent per annum net of taxes for the year's first quarter.

Likewise, Metrobank Trust's dollar investments, particularly the recently launched MetroDollar Trust Fund, performed well over the 3-month Libor and its direct competitors with a year-to-date gross yield of 7.486 percent per annum as of June 2001.

Metrobank has completed the reengineering of its trust banking operations and reinforced its investment division. Metrobank's Trust arm now has a full complement of top-notch professional fund managers for fixed-income, equities and dollar investment outlets. With this development, Metrobank is better able to maximize client returns through effective investment strategies without compromising the safety of its client's investments.

JOHNNY VILLENA

I went into government service with the best of intentions. It entailed a lot of sacrifice, but I would like to think that I was able to contribute, even just a little.

With ₱900, ex-DOTC chief felt like a king

(From page B1)

Nations project in 1973.

The project was to draw up a master plan for urban planning of Metro Manila, including the development of transportation systems and infrastructure.

King for a day

This Bicolano was made head of the planning group for the Philippines. For his responsibilities he was paid P900 a month, a hefty amount for a young, 25-year-old single male at a time when the minimum wage was only about P250.

The problem, however, was that he had to wait six months before he was able to get his salary. But when he finally got it, the feeling was indescribable.

"I have never felt so rich or so blessed in my life. My money bulged in my pockets," Prado tells SundayBiz.

He felt so happy that he splurged the equivalent of one month's salary on his friends. He invited everybody he knew and prepared a lauriat of Magnolia ice cream, Max's fried chicken and Coca-Cola in his tiny apartment in San Diego Street, Sampaloc, Manila.

Part of what was left he used to build a wardrobe. His friend accompanied him and convinced the future Cabinet official to invest in an array of shirts and pants in bright green, orange, red, yellow and even fuschia shirts.

His pants were made of double-knit fabric held up by two-inch wide belts with a great big buckle and his shoes had heels. He even bought ties with large flower prints. He thought his wardrobe was snazzy enough to complement his Ringo Starr-like flowing wavy hair.

Prado was excited building up his wardrobe since his parents, a judge and a schoolteacher, did not have enough for luxuries as they had to support 10 children.

"Looking back I think I looked like a clown. I remember thinking to myself that I must have bought the wrong clothes because my Japanese counterparts at that time at the UN all wore white shirts and dark suits, while I had printed shirts and floral ties," Prado recalls.

His wardrobe may not have suited the work place but they sure created quite a stir when he hit all the nightclubs and discos, restaurants like Little Quiapo and Butterfly, heady with the knowledge of doing well in the professional world.

Lucky streak

After he paid all his debts and got tired of all the shopping, he still had P400 left. A friend convinced him to invest it in stocks.

"I did not know what stocks were at that time. I never heard about it. But my friend said these were good investments so I bought. I forgot the shares I bought, but I do remember buying Philex shares. I bought it for less than 10 centavos per share at that time," Prado says.

He just left his shares and before he knew it, the price went up to P1 per share and shares accumulated through the years. Before I knew it, the value of my shares multiplied ten-fold," Prado says.

It was just the start of his lucky streak. After making it big in stocks, he also won a Volvo in 1999 when he won the jackpot in a casino.

He got a lot of things by sheer stroke of luck, he says, but everything else he has accomplished he got because of sheer hard work.

A self-confessed workaholic, Prado charted an enviable career that started at the UN, and then with the government. In between his work assignments here and abroad, he managed to take up additional studies in Japan.

Prado worked for many years in government and he says he has been to more places in the Philippines than anybody else who was in government with him. He was an expert in urban planning and it was because of this that former President Corazon Aquino appointed him DOTC secretary in 1991.

Sacrifice

He stayed there for only two years but government service took a lot of his time and effort. It was a case of too many things to do, but too little time to do them.

"I had the luxury of putting all my effort to government service because I was single and I had no commitment. It was difficult for my colleagues who had families," he relates.

Prado says he has no regrets working with government, even if it was a 24-hour job. He learned a lot but he decided to leave when the Ramos administration took over saying that he wanted new challenges, new mountains to climb.

"I have always been a restless person, I cannot sit still. I always look forward to the next challenge," Prado says.

This new challenge he found in business. He has always been involved in businesses now and then, but it was only after he left government that he went into it full time. He also decided to invest his money abroad just to make sure that he would not be accused of using his connections in the Philippines.

His latest venture is in the distribution of fine wine carrying his name from New Zealand under his firm Kifil International. He sells a wide array of superior wines that include Prado Pinot Noir, Prado Pinot Blanc, Prado Riesling and the Prado Sparkling Wine.

Aside from wines, Kifil International is also engaged in agribusiness, real estate development, marketing and distribution of meats, herbs and beverages.

"I did not have much money to invest but I always believed that if you have a good idea you could get people to invest their money with you. I did that in government when I got financiers to bankroll government projects. If I could do it in government, then I could do it in business," he adds.

Thai Airways . . . (From page B3)

Critics point at the government's unwillingness to stop unprofitable domestic routes for fear of upsetting constituents or powerful lobby groups. The government recently permitted domestic fares to be raised 4 percent when managers said a 50-percent hike was needed to turn in profits.

The company blamed its losses on rising fuel prices and a devaluation of the Thai currency. But analysts point at the management's failure to hedge fuel costs by buying supplies in advance as many other airlines do.

Thai Airways is 93 percent owned by the Finance Ministry, but its operations are under the Communications Ministry, an arrangement that often causes conflict as each ministry vies for control and plum jobs.

"Thai has just become a tool in this political toing and fro-ing between the different factions. The focus of the airline has been totally lost," Ballantyne said.

Earlier this year, deputy Communications Minister Pracha Maleenond nominated three board members with connections to a company controlled by his family. He also removed airline president Bhisit Kuslasayanon, said to be close to the Finance Ministry, from the board.

After protests by the media and the union, whose members attacked Pracha's car, the changes were reversed.

But the troubles continued, as pilots got into a war of words with their union leaders. The dispute began when union leaders urged the company to reject a salary hike requested by the pilots, saying they should first improve their efficiency.

ANSWER TO SUNDAY CROSSWORD

S	O	U	R	■	A	R	G	U	S	■	F	L	O	W	■	P	A	R	I	S
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ATTENTION: Food & Beverage Companies and Other Businesses

We are inviting all FRANCHISE Companies to come and visit the Actual Model Display of **ALUFORM MODULAR STORE SYSTEM** at World Trade Center, Roxas Blvd. Pasay City on September 14, 15 & 16, 2001 from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

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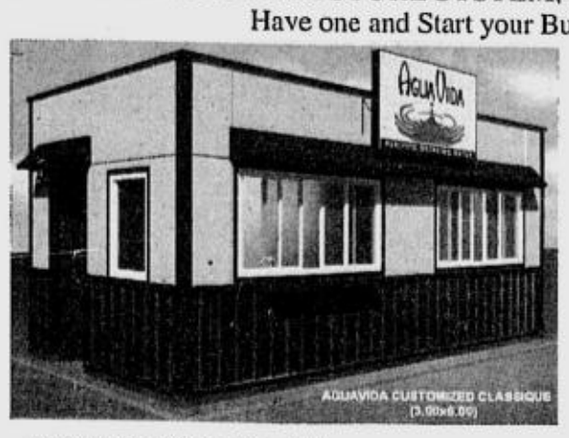
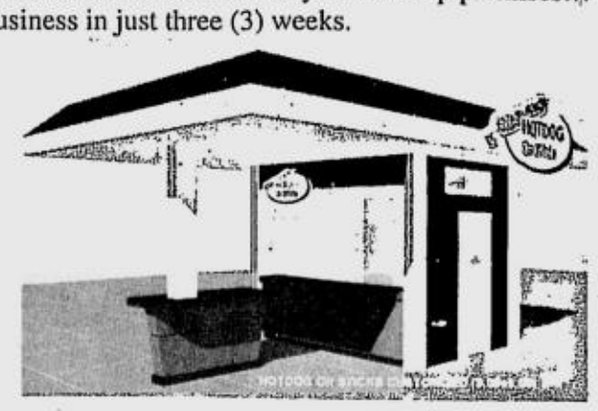


AQUAVIDA CUSTOMIZED CLASSIQUE (3.00x6.00)



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FOR SALES PERSONNEL:
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Internet business Opportunities Expo.

"The Internet has created a million millionaires... Why not you?"

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Mr. Nigel Mayne, Worldsites President

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Sat, Sept 15 at 12:00 noon & 7:00 pm
Sunday, Sept 16 at 12:00 noon
Location: Hyatt Regency, 2702 Roxas Blvd. Pasay City P.O. Box 2462 Manila, Luzon Island
Tel: 63-2-8331234

Manila
Dates & Times:
Sun, Sept 16, at 7:00 pm
Mon,Sept 17, at 12:00 noon & 7:00 pm
Tues,Sept 18, at 12:00 noon & 7:00 pm
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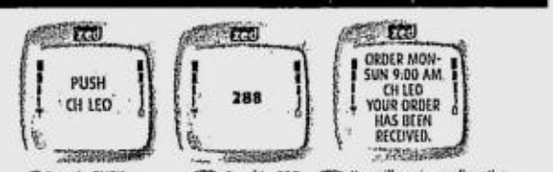

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✓ Editorial skills and knowledge of Microsoft Office programs are definitely an advantage.

Detailed curriculum vitae and photo of interested parties must be mailed to:

The Director for Human Resources
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◇TRAINORS◇
M/F, 21-28 y/o; graduate of a four-year course preferably Mass Comm, BS Education, Business course; with excellent oral and written communication skills; must be good in Public Speaking; highly computer literate; can handle pressure and can adapt to different situations; must be willing to be assigned in Metro Manila, in the province and/or in depressed areas.

◇COORDINATORS◇
M/F, 21-35 y/o; graduate of a Business course; with 3-5 yrs sales and marketing experience must be proficient in oral and written communication; computer literate; must be flexible, can handle pressure and willing to do field works.

◇CORPORATE PRESENTORS◇
M/F, 21-35 y/o, graduate of a four-year course preferably Mass Comm.; with relevant work experience in similar capacity; excellent in oral and written communication skills and must be good in Public Speaking; computer literate; must be flexible, can handle pressure and willing to be assigned to do field works.

◇PERSONNEL OFFICER/SUPERVISOR◇
M/F, 30-40 y/o; a graduate of Psychology, Behavioral Science/Studies or Human Resource Management; a Master Degree is an advantage; with minimum of 3 yrs. experience in similar capacity handling all facets of HR works.

◇ FIELD AUDITORS◇
M/F, not more than 40 y/o; graduate of BS in Accountancy and must be a CPA; with at least 2 years relevant work experience.

◇ADMINISTRATIVE CLERK◇
Female, 25-30 y/o single. A graduate of four year course with at least 2-3 years work experience; organized, assertive, and quick-minded; can deal with deadline-oriented environment. Highly computer literate with good typing skills.

◇ACCOUNTING CLERK◇
Female, 25-30 y/o, single. A graduate of BS in Accountancy with at least 2-3 years work experience, highly computer literate and can deal with deadline-oriented environment.

◇ADVERTISING & PROMO ASSISTANT◇
M/F, 25-30 y/o, single. A graduate of Mass Comm or Comm Arts major in Advertising with at least 2-3 years work experience. Preferably with adept knowledge in design promo strategies, lay-outing, drafting. Highly computer literate and can work long hours.

◇SALES & MARKETING OFFICERS/MANAGERS◇
M/F, not more than 40y/o; graduate of Mass Comm. or Comm. Arts; Business course with 10 years relevant work experience in sales and marketing; preferably with experience in consumer goods industry must have knowledge in various Marketing Strategies and has a good leadership skills.

◇SALES REPRESENTATIVES/MARKETING STAFF◇
M/F, 21-35 y/o; graduate of Business Management, Marketing, Advertising or Mass Comm.; proficient in oral and written communication; with relevant work experience.

◇EDITOR/ASST. EDITOR/EDITORIAL STAFF◇
M/F, not over 35 y/o; holder of Bachelor's Degree in Journalism, Mass Comm. or English Comm. Arts; preferably with background in Business Administration Management; computer literate; creative, has keen eyes for details and must have relevant working experience in publication.

◇ PROGRAMMERS ◇
Male, not more than 27 y/o; must be a graduate of Comp. Scie./Com. Eng or ECE; with at least 3-yrs. relevant work experience in the following applications: SQL Server 7 or 2000, Microsoft Access 2000 or XP Visual Basic, Internet Development, JAVA ASP, Crystal Report Version 6, knowledge in Database Administration & Computer programming an advantage, Windows Operating System (1998 NT / 2000 Professional). Proven ability to work with a team/ long hours and can work under pressure.

◇ WEB DEVELOPERS ◇
Male, not more than 27 y/o, must be a graduate of Bachelor of Science in Comp. Scie. / Comp. Eng'g. With 2-3 years in-depth experience in web development using Microsoft Technologies: ASP, IIS, VB Script: Access, SQL Server, Visual Interdev/Ultradev. Strong knowledge in HTML and JAVA Script Hardcoding as well as Cross-browser Development. Proven ability to work with a team/ long hours and can work under pressure.

Apply in person with application letter, comprehensive resume', transcript of records, 2 pcs. 2x2 pictures, 2 pcs. 1x1 pictures and other necessary employment credentials.

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For position 1&2 - With 3 to 5 years of work experience in their respective area of competence, preferably holders of appropriate master's degree. Computer literate, with leadership qualities and good communication skills.
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For position 8 - (P.E., Val. Ed., Soc. Sci., Math, Humanities, Philosophy, English, Filipino, Psychology, Physics & Chemistry). Preferably Masteral Degree holder or at least 9 units in Masters in their respective field of specialization, LET or PBET passer.
For position 9 - Must be BSBE/BBE major in Business Distributive Arts graduate, preferably with Masteral Units.
For position 10 - Not over 35 years old. With 3 years experience and knowledgeable in repairing AIRCON unit and with Driver's License.

Applicants must be willing to accept provincial assignments, if necessary. Competitive salary and attractive package of benefits await the right candidates. You can e-mail us at *acsatadm@yahoo.com* or *acsatpersonnel@yahoo.com* or send your resumé, transcript of records and 2x2 picture to:

PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT
ASIAN COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
2/F Hillside Plaza, Sumulong Highway, Antipolo City

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Rural Bank (Micro Finance Oriented) Manager

- At least 5 years experience in rural banking and micro finance
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Send resumé to:

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Tel. 807-5013; Fax: 807-5019
Email: ezf@enzo.com
or EZ Mart National Highway
Poblacion Batangas
Tel. 0917-5308956

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European Company Manila Office
With the following qualifications:
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Proficient in oral and written English
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The **SAMAR ISLAND BIODIVERSITY PROJECT**, implemented by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) - Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau (PAWB) under the auspices of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Global Environment Facility (GEF) is in need of:

POLICY DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST (PDS)

The PDS shall be responsible for developing and implementing a training program to assist sectoral agencies and local government units in internalizing conservation objectives of the proposed Samar Island Natural Park in their respective development plans.

Applicants must meet the following requirements:

- At least Masters degree in natural resources management or related field
- Familiar with the development and applications of ENR tools and methods for integrating conservation development planning
- Professional and practical experience in environmental planning, both at the national and local level
- Excellent training and communication skills
- Willingness to stay in Samar for the duration of the assignment

Interested parties are requested to send their resumé not later than September 30, 2001 to:

**The National Project Director
Samar Island Biodiversity Project
Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau
Ninoy Aquino Parks and Wildlife Nature Center
Quezon Avenue, Diliman
Quezon City
FAX No. 924-0109
Email: pam-pawb@mozcom.com**

Or

**The Project Manager
Samar Island Biodiversity Project
SSPC-SRSF Complex, Brgy. Mercedes
Catbalogan, Samar
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10:00am - 6:00pm**

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Contact us at 63 2 833 1234 to schedule an appointment.

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- To handle Manila accounts (2)

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- Male, 25-40 years of age
- With professional driver's license
- With at least two (2) years experience in handling delivery truck vans (preferably with mechanical skills)
- Preferably a resident near Pasay but others are also welcome
- Willing to work overtime

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Qualifications:

- ☐ Male • Less than 33 years old • Must be a graduate of a well known university • Must have 5 years related working experience in computer manufacturing • Well verse in all phases of accounting aspect • Able to prepare consolidation report

Requirements:

- ■ Updated resumé with recent photo • Diploma / Transcript of Records • Employment Certificate

INTERESTED APPLICANTS MAY SEND THEIR RESUMÉ TO:
MR. ROMMEL AQUINO
Division Chief, Recruitment Division
SBMA-Labor Center
Rm. 138, Building 255, Barryman Road, Subic Bay Freeport Zone 2222

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Deadline of Application Sept 19, 2001
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For Inquiries: CALL 8826316 loc. 230/256

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MAYNILA, PILIPINAS

DISBURSEMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE
INVITATION TO PREQUALIFY AND TO BID

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) will conduct a prequalification of prospective bidders for the supply, delivery, installation and commissioning of Two (2) units Currency Tyer (Tying Machine) with the following specifications:

- Currency Tyer with automatic clamp, Bunn or any approved equivalent
- Model 10-AC (with currency back table)
- Type of wrap: 2W-1
- Motor specifications: 220V, 1/4HP, 60HZ, single phase
- Depth of Throat: 8"
- Twine type and size: 12-ply, cotton twine (approx. 1 kg. per spool)
- Tension device: Rear mounted
- Cycle time per minute: 36
- Other feature/s: with locking casters
- Warranty: three (3) years from date of successful installation
- During the warranty period the complete supply of labor and spare parts shall be at no cost to BSP.

For prequalification purposes, interested suppliers are required to submit to the Disbursement Control Committee thru the Administrative Services Department, Room 212, 2nd Floor, 5-Storey Building, corner A. Mabini and P. Ocampo Sr. Streets, Malate, Manila, not later than **October 3, 2001**, photocopies of the following documents (original of Nos. 4 and 5 are to be presented for authentication purposes):

1. If the bidder is not the manufacturer, a certification from the manufacturer that the bidder is an authorized/exclusive distributor of the machine;
2. Certification of support from the manufacturer on spare parts availability and after sales service for a period of at least three (3) years;
3. Submission of brochures/literatures of the machine to be offered for evaluation purposes
4. Articles of Incorporation and Business Registration Papers;
5. 2000 Audited Financial Statement (Balance Sheet and Income Statement - Minimum working capital of P1 Million and a networth of P2 Million or its equivalent in foreign currency);
6. Company history/profile and corporate structure; and
7. List of reference sites/successful installations with at least one (1) year experience with the proposed machine (complete with contact name, address and telephone/fax numbers)

Only those who submit/comply with the above requirements and are prequalified by the Bank will be invited to participate in the actual bidding which will be conducted on a later date to be advised to the prequalified suppliers.

The two-envelope system shall be adopted in the bidding.

For particulars, please contact the Manager I, Procurement Division III, Administrative Services Department, Rm. 212, 2nd Floor, 5-storey Building, Tel. Nos. 523-13-21.

The BSP hereby reserves the right to reject any or all bids, as well as to waive any defect or informality in such bids, and to accept such bids as may be considered most advantageous to the Bank.

FOR THE DISBURSEMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE:
(Sgd.) EDUARDO L. MAGAHIS
Officer-In-Charge
Administrative Services Department
(PDI -- Sept. 16, 2001)

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Notice is hereby given that the following Manila Southwoods Golf Shares certificates issued to **GRANDVIEW PROPERTIES & VENTURES INC.** are missing:

Certificate No.	No. of Shares
A-1341	20
A-1463	16

(PDI--Sept 9, 16 & 23, 2001)

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APPLICANTS MUST HAVE PROCESS OPERATIONS EXPERIENCE EITHER IN A PETROCHEMICAL PLANT, REFINERY, FERTILIZER, POWER OR STEAM PLANT, WORKING ON SHIFT. MUST BE PREPARED TO PERFORM 12 HOURS SHIFT WORK. STEAM BOILER OPERATIONS EXPERIENCE AND CERTIFICATION WILL BE A DISTINCT ADVANTAGE. SHOULD HAVE TWO (2) YEARS EXPERIENCE OPERATING A DCS PANEL.

COMPETITIVE SALARY AND BENEFITS PACKAGE WILL BE PROVIDED TO SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES FOR THE ABOVE POSITIONS ON A 3-YEAR RENEWABLE TERM CONTRACT.

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MATRIMONIAL CAUSES RULES
IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE
HONG KONG SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION
MATRIMONIAL CAUSES NO. 2155 OF 2001

BETWEEN
MELBOURNE RAMOS — Petitioner
And
NERIE LAPIAD — Respondent

NOTICE

A DIVORCE PETITION has been filed against the above named Respondent, NERIE LAPIAD whose present address is unknown, who may apply to the Family Court Registry at M2/F, Wanchai Law Courts, Wanchai Tower, No. 12 Harbour Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong for a copy of the Petition. If within one month he fails to communicate with the said Registry, the Court may hear the case in his absence.

Registrar
(PDI - Sept. 16, 2001)

IPAMS U.S.A. IMMIGRANT VISA FOR CGFNS PASSERS

ANNOUNCES THE FOLLOWING RECRUITMENT CAMPAIGN & PROVINCIAL SOURCING:

MANILA (IPAMS OFFICE) **SEPT.** 27 & 28, **OCT.** 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10 & 11

DAVAO CITY	CEBU CITY	BAGUIO CITY
MARCO POLO HOTEL	MARRIOT HOTEL	SUPREME HOTEL
SEPT. 29 & 30	OCT. 1 & 2	OCT. 13 & 14
(APPLY ON SEPT. 28)	(APPLY ON SEPT. 30)	(APPLY ON OCT. 12)

(PREFERABLY PROVINCIAL CANDIDATES SHOULD PERSONALLY SUBMIT CREDENTIALS ON THE ABOVE DESIGNATED DATES TO EXPEDITE FINAL INTERVIEW SCHEDULES)

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NO PLACEMENT FEE IN THE PHILIPPINES & U.S.A.

Metro Manila applicants may personally apply soonest and submit educational and employment credentials plus two (2) pass-port size photographs for inclusion in the final interview to:

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WE SHALL ALSO ENTERTAIN APPLICANTS DURING SUNDAYS

DBP Development Bank of the Philippines

INVITATION TO BID

The Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP) will receive sealed bids on **October 4, 2001** at 10:00 a.m. at Suite 5, 12/F of the DBP Head Office Building at Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City for the sale in cash of the following DBP shareholdings:

DESCRIPTION	MINIMUM BID
13,601,080 Common Class "A" Shares of Stocks of the Manila Midtown Hotels & Land Corporation (Manila Midtown)	P27,746,203.20 (at P2.04 per share)

Bidders are reminded:

1. To be on time. No bids shall be accepted after the lapse of the hour set by the Bidding Committee for the opening of the bids. The sale shall be subject to other terms and conditions, which may be imposed by the Bank.
2. Bidding Rules and Procedures are available at the Capital Markets Development office, 3/F DBP Building, Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City.

THE DBP BIDDING COMMITTEE RESERVES THE RIGHT TO ACCEPT OR TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, TO WAIVE ANY FORMALITY THEREIN, OR TO ACCEPT SUCH BIDS AS MAY BE CONSIDERED MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE BANK. THE DECISION OF THE BANK IS FINAL AND BINDING.

For inquiries, please call our direct lines: 812-63-72, 815-22-69 or thru operator: 818-9511 to 20 local nos. 2310/2358/2359/2361.

CAPITAL MARKETS DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
(PDI – Sept. 15 & 16, 2001)

From the nation's No. 1 Newspaper

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LUCIA COINCO CASTAÑEDA

CPA-Lawyer

Passed away in the Grace of our Lord on September 14, 2001 at the age of 53.

Her bereaved husband **Sandiganbayan Justice Catalino R. Castañeda, Jr.**; children **Clarence Joseph, Clark Ignatius** and **Chere Therese**; granddaughter **Katrina**; brother **Renato** (†); sisters **Emma, Norma, Myrna, Sylvia, Imelda** and **Teresa** (†); in-laws, relatives, friends and employees mourn her passing and request prayers for her eternal rest.

Her remains lie in state at La Funeraria Paz, G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be on Wednesday, September 19, 2001 at the Heritage Park, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig, Metro Manila after the 1:00 p.m. Mass.

Arch. JESUS RODNEY MIRANDA SANTIAGO

has peacefully joined our Creator on the 15th day of September 2001 at the age of 34.

His loving wife **ARLENE**; parents **HERMOGENES** and **LETICIA**; parents-in-law **ERIBERTO** and **NORMA**; brothers and sisters and in-laws **RICHARD** and **CECILE, SUSAN, ROMMEL** and **ROSANNE, MA. LETICIA, LINA** and **JOSE, ALMA** and **EMMANUEL, CORAZON, RONALD** and **TOOTS, ROBERTO** and **CARLA, LINDA** and **JERRY, RENE** and **MARICEL**; nephews and nieces **RAFAEL JOSE, RONALDO GABRIEL, JOSH, CHIN, MIA, JAYCEE, DAVID DENNIS** and **WENDY, DONNIE, DIANA** and **NOLY, MIGUEL, KAT, KIM, JELIN, NIKA, COLLIN, GABY**; aunties and uncles and other relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Arlington Memorial Chapels, Araneta Avenue, Quezon City, where he shall await your final goodbyes, until September 19, 2001.

Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

Matthew 10:39

PROF. CRISTY R. HERNANDEZ

of the University of the Philippines and the University of Batangas

Died in the grace of our Lord on September 13, 2001 at the age of 78.

His wife **Ofelia**; children **Chito** and **Tonet, Ana, Noni** and **Che**, and **Marlene**; grandchildren **Iciay** and **Javi**; relatives and friends request your prayers for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina. Please call Tel. #920-0352 for the final schedule of the following:

- Transfer to Batangas City
- Next day return to the U.P. Parish for the funeral Mass, followed by cremation services at Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina.

ARTURO LINDAYA MARQUEZ

of Legaspi, Albay and Quezon City

died in the Grace of our Lord on September 15, 2001 at the age of 70.

His bereaved family, relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Chapel 15, La Funeraria Paz, Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Cremation will be on Monday, September 17, 2001 at La Funeraria Paz Crematory at 10:00 AM. There will be a Mass at 7:00 AM.

I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.
John 14:6

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Message of Thanks

We, the family and relatives of the late

EDGAR ALLEN B. FERRY

who joined his Creator on August 31, 2001

sincerely convey our deepest gratitude and appreciation to all those who offered Masses and prayers, sent flowers, visited and kept vigil, attended the funeral rites with offered condolences to us in our moment of grief.

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

INQUIRER OBITUARIES

• DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT • MESSAGE OF THANKS •
• DEATH ANNIVERSARY • REQUIEMS •

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OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS: ❶ Copy of Death Certificate ❷ Any Identification document (I.D.)

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AREA I: Las Piñas, Makati, Muntinlupa & Parañaque Area		
CODE	LOCATION	SELLING PRICE
KMB 69	Unit 203 2/F Praise Condominium Santillan St., Makati City. M. M. Condominium Unit : Office & Commercial space. Finished complete with male & female CRs; FA – 155.497 sq.m.	P6,500,000.00
KMB 70	Unit 303 3/F Praise Condominium Santillan St., Makati City. M. M. Condominium Unit : Office & Commercial space. Finished complete with male & female CRs; FA – 144.307 sq.m.	P6,000,000.00
KMB 71	Unit 701 7/F Praise Condominium Santillan St., Makati City. M. M. Condominium Unit : Office & Commercial space. Finished complete with male & female CRs; FA – 255.003 sq.m.	P11,000,000.00
KMB 72	Unit 801 8/F Praise Condominium Santillan St., Makati City. M. M. Condominium Unit : Office & Commercial space. Finished complete with male & female CRs; FA – 255.003 sq.m.	P11,000,000.00
KMB 98	Unit 505 5/F Praise Condominium Santillan St., Makati City. Condominium Unit : Office & Commercial space. Finished complete with male & female CRs; FA – 28.079	P1,200,000.00
KMB 86	Lot 2-A-1-H-2 (Formerly 2-A-1-H) Alabang Zapote Road, Las Piñas City - Commercial Lot; LA - 594 sq.m. With two buildings - office and canteen, valuation not included.	P17,000,000.00
KMB 127	Unit 2C 3/F Bldg. 2, Belmont South Park Townhouse, United Hills Subd., Parañaque City. Rear-end Unit: MARINA FA = 129.46 sq.m.	P2,500,000.00
KMB 128	Unit 2D 3/F Bldg. 2, Belmont South Park Townhouse, United Hills Subd., Parañaque City. Front-end unit: OCEANA, FA = 95.34 sq.m.	P1,850,000.00
KMB 129	Unit 1A G/F Bldg. 1, Belmont South Park Townhouse, United Hills Subd., Parañaque City. G F Unit: TROPICALE, FA = 182.45 sq.m.	P3,800,000.00
KMB 130	Unit 1B 2/F Bldg. 1, Belmont South Park Townhouse, United Hills Subd., Parañaque City. 2/F Unit: PACIFIC, FA = 141.00 sq.m.	P3,000,000.00
KMB 131	Unit 1C 3/F Bldg. 1, Belmont South Park Townhouse, United Hills Subd., Parañaque City. Rear-end Unit: MARINA FA = 129.46 sq.m.	P2,500,000.00
KMB 132	Unit 1D 3/F Bldg. 1, Belmont South Park Townhouse, United Hills Subd., Parañaque City. Front-end unit: OCEANA, FA = 95.34 sq.m.	P1,850,000.00
KMB 133	Unit 3A G/F Bldg. 1, Belmont South Park Townhouse, United Hills Subd., Parañaque City. GF Unit: TROPICALE FA = 182.45 sq.m.	P3,800,000.00
KMB 134	Unit 3C 3/F Bldg. 3, Belmont South Park Townhouse, United Hills Subd., Parañaque City. rear-end unit: MARINA FA = 129.46 sq.m.	P2,850,000.00
KMB 135	Unit 4B 2/F Bldg. 4, Belmont South Park Townhouse, United Hills Subd., Parañaque City. 2/F Unit: PACIFIC FA = 141.00 sq.m.	P3,200,000.00
KMB 136	Unit 4C 3/F Bldg. 4, Belmont South Park Townhouse, United Hills Subd., Parañaque City. Rear-end unit: MARINA FA = 129.46 sq.m.	P2,500,000.00
KMB 137	Unit 4D 3/F Bldg. 4, Belmont South Park Townhouse, United Hills Subd., Parañaque City. Front-end unit: OCEANA FA = 95.34 sq.m.	P2,000,000.00
KMB 138	Unit 5A G/F Bldg. 5, Belmont South Park Townhouse, United Hills Subd., Parañaque City. GF: TROPICALE FA = 182.45 sq.m.	P3,800,000.00
KMB 139	Unit 6B 2/F Bldg. 6, Belmont South Park Townhouse, United Hills Subd., Parañaque City. 2/F unit: PACIFIC FA = 141.00 sq.m.	P3,000,000.00
KMB 140	Unit 6C 3/F Bldg. 6, Belmont South Park Townhouse, United Hills Subd., Parañaque City. Rear-end unit: MARINA FA = 129.46 sq.m.	P2,500,000.00
KMB 74	No. 231-A, Int. A, Gen Aguinaldo St., (Col. Santos St), Bgy. South Cembo, Makati City. Residential Lot with One Storey Residence. LA = 204.00 sq.m., FA = 93.12 sq.m.	P2,250,000.00
KMB 76	Along J.P. Rizal Street, Makati City. Two (2) adjoining Commercial Lots. LA - 400.00 sq.m.	P20,000,000.00
KMB 159	No. 316 El Grande Avenue, BF Homes, Parañaque City. Two (2) adjoining Residential Lots, Improved by Single Storey Residential Building with Roofdeck, 4 Bedrooms, 2 Toilet & Bath. LA = 793.00 sq.m. FA = 325.25 sq.m.	P8,000,000.00
KMB 161	Units 222 , 2/F, The Atrium of Makati, Makati Ave., Makati City. FA = 145.06 sq.m.	P9,000,000.00
KMB 162	Units 223 , 2/F, The Atrium of Makati, Makati Ave., Makati City. FA = 192.05 sq.m.	P12,000,000.00
KMB 175	Unit 3-C, T-Tower Condominium, No. 5040 P. Burgos St., cor. Calderon St., Makati City. One bedroom residential condo. FA = 70 sq.m.	P3,000,000.00
KMB 176	Unit 3-D, T-Tower Condominium, No. 5040 P. Burgos St., cor. Calderon St., Makati City. Studio type residential condo.	P1,300,000.00
KMB 177	Unit 7-C, T-Tower Condominium, No. 5040 P. Burgos St., cor. Calderon St., Makati City. Studio type residential condo.	P1,300,000.00
KMB 178	Chingkiang St., Bgy. San Jose, Pasay City. Two adjoining lots with a house . LA = 600 sq.m.	P10,000,000.00

AREA II: Caloocan, Navotas, Manila, Quezon City , Mandaluyong & San Juan Area		
KMB 103	No. 71 Agno Ext. Sta. Mesa Heights Bgy. Tatalon, Quezon City. House & Lot; 3-storey residence with penthouse & roofdeck, 5 BR and 9 T & B. LA = 162.70 sq.m.	P5,000,000.00
KMB 113	No. 17 (Lots 4 - A&D) Calderon Street, Bgy. Marilag, Proj. 4, Quezon City. House & Lot: LA – 128.00 sq.m. (lot 4 –A) and 37.50 sq.m. (lot 4-D, right of way). Two-storey – 2 door apt. Near PSBA along Aurora Blvd., Quezon City	P3,000,000.00
KMB 179	No. 17 (Lot 4-C) Calderon Street, Bgy. Marilag, Proj. 4, Quezon City. House & Lot: LA – 136.50 sq.m. Two-storey residence. Near PSBA along Aurora Blvd., Quezon City	P3,200,000.00
KMB 116	Unit 4, Luxor Villas Townhomes, Santolan Road, San Juan, MM. Four (4) storey concrete bldg. with parking space. FA = 280.00 sq.m.	P7,000,000.00
KMB 117	Unit 5, Luxor Villas Townhomes, Santolan Road, San Juan, Metro Manila. Four (4) storey concrete bldg. with parking space. FA = 280.00 sq.m.	P7,000,000.00
KMB 118	Unit 9, Luxor Villas Townhomes, Santolan Road, San Juan, Metro Manila. Four (4) storey concrete bldg. with parking space. FA = 280.00 sq.m.	P7,000,000.00
KMB 147	No. 2985 Clemente Street cor. Gabriel Street, Tondo, Manila. Improved by 2 Storey Residential Building and Candy Factory w/ Roofdeck. LA = 172.00 sq.m. FA = 156.00 sq.m.	P3,500,000.00
KMB 167	Unit 34 Las Villas del Cielo Townhomes, Bgy. Culiat, tandang Sora, Quezon City, 2-storey Townhouse type condo unit. FA = 99.16 sq.m. w/ carport	P1,500,000.00
KMB 168	Unit 35 Las Villas del Cielo Townhomes, Bgy. Culiat, tandang Sora, Quezon City, 2-storey Townhouse type condo unit. FA = 99.16 sq.m. w/ carport	P1,500,000.00
KMB 169	Unit 38 Las Villas del Cielo Townhomes, Bgy. Culiat, tandang Sora, Quezon City, 2-storey Townhouse type condo unit. FA = 99.16 sq.m. w/ carport	P1,500,000.00
KMB 170	Unit 64 Las Villas del Cielo Townhomes, Bgy. Culiat, tandang Sora, Quezon City, 2-storey Townhouse type condo unit. FA = 93.56 sq.m. w/ carport	P1,400,000.00
KMB 171	Unit 65 Las Villas del Cielo Townhomes, Bgy. Culiat, tandang Sora, Quezon City, 2-storey Townhouse type condo unit. FA = 99.16 sq.m. w/ carport	P1,500,000.00
AREA III:	**Angono & Cainta Area**	
KMB 29	Lot 2, Block 156, Karangalan Village, Imelda Ave., Service Road, Santolan , Cainta, Rizal. Lot with 4-door 2-storey residential apartment. LA=221.53 sq.m FA= 443 sq.m.	P2,500,000.00
KMB 55	Lot 10 Blk. 1 Mission Hills., Brgy. Muzon, Angono, Rizal. Vacant Residential Lot – LA – 694 sq.m. Fully developed residential subdivision which is few kilometers away from Antipolo Town Proper.	P3,000,000.00
KMB 57	Lot 13 Blk. 1 Mission Hills., Brgy. Muzon, Angono, Rizal. Vacant Residential Lot – LA – 540 sq.m. Fully developed residential subdivision which is few kilometers away from Antipolo Town Proper.	P1,800,000.00
KMB 58	Lot 14 Blk. 1 Mission Hills., Brgy. Muzon, Angono, Rizal. Vacant Residential Lot – LA – 540 sq.m. Fully developed residential subdivision which is few kilometers away from Antipolo Town Proper.	P1,800,000.00
AREA IV:	**South Luzon Area**	
KMB 61	Capitol Hills Executive Subd., Trece Martirez City, Cavite. Various Vacant Residential Lots - 169 lots ranging from 39 sq.m. to 72 sq.m. lot area. Classified as low to economy housing subdivision. The subdivision is located at the rear side of Cavite Capitol within the Trece Martirez Town Proper. It is a fully developed subdivision.	P1,800.00/sq.m.
KMB 106	Rodeo Hills Subd., Alfonso, Cavite. Vacant Residential lots – 16 lots ranging from 320 sq.m. to 668 sq.m. lot area	P2,500/sqm to P3,000/sqm
KMB 107	Rodeo Countryside Estate, Alfonso, Cavite. Vacant Residential Lots –2 lots with lot areas of 1000 sq.m. and 2000 sq.m.	P2,000/ sq.m.
KMB 111	Taguntong Hills, Taysan, Legaspi City. House & Lot; LA – 2,548 sq.m.; FA – 507.38 sq.m. Two-storey residence.	P5,500,000.00
KMB 112	Taguntong Hills, Taysan, Legaspi City. Four Adjoining lots – Aggregate Lot Area – 479 sq.m. Two-storey Townhouse Unit with basement. Overlooking Mayon Volcano.	P2,300,000.00
KMB 143	Lot 1, Blk. 4 Sampaguita Village, San Pedro, Laguna. House & Lot, Improved by One-Storey Residential Building. LA = 323.00 sq.m.	P1,300,000.00
KMB 144	Lot 633 Plan GSS-877, Bo. San Vicente, San Pedro, Laguna. Vacant Lot, LA = 841.00 sq.m.	P1,200,000.00
KMB 163	Lot 35, Blk. 21, Durian Street, West Springville Camella Homes, Molino, Bacoor, Cavite. LA = 60.00 sq.m. FA = 48.00 sq.m.	P600,000.00
AREA V:	**North Luzon Area**	
KMB 10 KMB 11	Unit #2 & Unit #3 Eagle Crest Townhouse Phase 1, Bakakeng Norte Road, Baguio City. Townhouse Unit – LA – 120 sq.m. & FA – 162 sq.m. Eagle crest is about 3 km. away from Marcos Highway. Within the vicinity are Tierra Crest Villas, Richmond Estate, Ciudad Grande & Richgate Subd. The unit is a 3-level townhouse w/ basement which consists of 2 big BR & 3 T&B. It is also equipped with fireplace and water supply is substantial. Public transportation is available within the site.	P2,000,000.00 (each)

KMB 92	Kabukiran, Homes Bgy. Tabe, Guiguinto, Bulacan. Residential Subdivision; *Few lots left!* Lot area ranges from 60 to 150 sq.m. Houses – FA-30 sq.m. Semi-developed Lots Undeveloped Lots	P1,500/sq.m.-lot P5,500/sqm.house P1,000/sqm.(cash) P500/sq.m.(cash)
KMB 36	Lot 6 Blk. 1 Hilltop Subd., Sumacab District, Cabanatuan City. House and Lot – LA – 240 sq.m Very near Maharlika Highway where the newly constructed NE Pacific Mall is located. TWO (2) one-storey residences with FA of 58 sq.m. and 85 sq.m. Equipped w/ deepwell , CHB & cyclone wire fence.	P475,000.00
KMB 120	Unit AT-A2, Amville Court Townhomes, Justice Village, Marcos Hi-way, Resid. Sec. A, Baguio City. Three (3) storey townhouse. FA = 108.00 sq.m.	P1,500,000.00
KMB 121	Unit AT-A7, Amville Court Townhomes, Justice Village, Marcos Hi-way, Resid. Sec. A, Baguio City. 3 storey townhouse. FA = 108.00 sq.m.	P1,700,000.00
KMB 122	Unit AT-A8, Amville Court Townhomes, Justice Village, Marcos Hi-way, Resid. Sec. A, Baguio City. 3 storey townhouse. FA = 108.00 sq.m.	P1,500,000.00
KMB 123	Unit AT-A9, Amville Court Townhomes, Justice Village, Marcos Hi-way, Resid. Sec. A, Baguio City. 3 storey townhouse. FA = 108 sq.m.	P1,500,000.00
KMB 148	Lot 19, Blk. 1, Road Lot 4, Hilltop Subdivision, Cabanatuan City. Improved by Single Storey Residential Building.	P1,200,000.00
KMB 149	Lot 18, Blk. 1, Road Lot 4, Hilltop Subdivision, Cabanatuan City. Improved by Single Storey Residential Building.	P1,200,000.00
AREA VII: Visayas - Mindanao Area		
KMB 83	Guinobatan, Leganes, Iloilo: Residential/Agricultural lot LA = 7,962 sq.m. Agri land = 4,676 sq.m. Residential lot 2,000 sq.m. Remaining portion is occupied by a school.	P1,200,000.00
KMB 93	No. 28-A Sta. Barbara, Zamboanga City. House & Lot – LA-500 sq.m.; FA-191.70 sq.m. Improved by a 4-bedroom residential bungalow. Approximately 200 meters from Veterans Avenue	P1,300,000.00
KMB 108	No. 613 Aguho St., Juna Subd., Matina, Davao City. House & Lot – LA – 1,200 sq.m. adjoining lots; FA – 374 sq.m. One storey residence with basement /carport	P8,000,000.00
KMB 151	Corner Muelle Loney Street, Iloilo City. Vacant Lot. LA = 914.00 sq.m.	P18,000,000.00
KMB 152	Bgy. Sulangan, Dumangas, Iloilo. Riceland, LA = 55,779.00 sq.m.	P1,500,000.00
KMB 160	L. J. Ledesma Subdivision, Bgy. Buhang, Jaro, Iloilo City. Consisting of 63 vacant Residential Lots with an average area of 60 sq.m.	P2,000.00/sq.m. OR P120,000 per lot
KMB 182	Guinatarcan, Cebu; vacant agricultural land, 0.61 ha. Consisting of 4 lots.	P125,000.00

Prices, interest rates and terms are subject to change without prior notice.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

1. The BUYER receives and accepts the property on an "AS-IS WHERE-IS" basis. "AS-IS WHERE-IS" basis shall mean that the SELLER makes no warranty as to the quality and physical condition of the property and that the BUYER buys and takes it in the condition that it is found and from the place where it is located, as well as all legal actions and encumbrances on the property that the BUYER knows or ought to know.
2. Buyers are enjoined to personally inspect / investigate/verify the actual site, condition, and status of the real properties and improvements, if any, and chattels as well as all the documents of ownership with the appropriate Register of Deeds before formally submitting their offers. Buyers are also advised that some of the above properties are subject of on-going litigation proceedings.
3. Properties will be sold on a "FIRST-COME FIRST -SERVE BASIS. The term "first-come, first-serve" shall mean any offer to purchase in cash based on the price indicated herein shall be given first priority. Offer to purchase via term financing shall be evaluated for management approval
4. Keppel Monte Bank reserves the right to reject any offer to purchase which are below the price indicated herein. The decision of Keppel Monte Bank is final and binding.

All brokers are welcome!

As of September 2001

(PDI – Sept. 16, 2001)

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dti
DEPARTMENT OF TRADE & INDUSTRY PHILIPPINES

INVITATION TO QUALIFY AND BID

The Bids and Awards Committee for Information Technology Resources of the **Web-Enabled Business Name Registration System Project** (WEBNRSP) invites IT solution provider companies to bid for the development and installation of a web-enabled business name registration.

Bid documents may be obtained from the Bureau of Trade Regulation and Consumer Protection c/o Atty. Ruth U. Tan at the 2/F DTI Building, 361 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City, during regular office hours (8:00 AM to 5:00 PM) on **September 17-21, 2001.** Deadline of **Submission of Qualification Requirements is on September 24, 2001**, 8:00 AM to 12:00 noon.

A pre-bid conference for qualified bidders will be held on **October 2, 2001, Tuesday, 2:00 PM** at the Round Table Conference Room, 6/F DTI Bldg., same address above cited.

The BAC-ITR reserves the right to reject any or all bids without assuming any obligation whatsoever to offset expenses or losses the bidder may incur in the preparation of its bids, and will entertain only such bid/s established to be most advantageous to the Government.

(Sgd.) **TOBY MELISSA C. MONSOD**
Chair, BAC-ITR for WEBNRSP

(PDI–Sept. 15 & 16, 2001)

INVITATION OF OFFERS TO SELL

The Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission - Project Management Office is currently looking for a 5-hectare property for its proposed Septage Treatment Plant project. Among others, the property should meet the following criteria:

- **Within Metro Manila**
- **Accessible to any major road/s**
- **Close to drainage line, creek or river**
- **Absence of informal settlers (squatters)**
- **Minimal / no reclamation requirement**
- **Minimal / no site development requirement**
- **Relative distance from residential areas**

Interested property owners should send their sealed documents, together with the lot plan, vicinity map and price proposals, not later than **September 28, 2001** to:

The Executive Director
Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission
4F PMS Bldg. Arlegui St.
San Miguel, Manila

INVITATION TO INTERESTED CONTRACTORS

American Embassy Manila intends to enter into a contract with instructor(s) or an institution for providing Tagalog Language Instruction Services, conducting classes and teaching American employees and/or dependents in the Filipino/Tagalog language. The requirement includes, but is not limited to, assigning lessons and correcting faulty pronunciation, improper tone pattern, and faulty structure by using drills while administering tests to determine student's progress.

Target Date of Release of Solicitation: September 18, 2001
Target Date of Submission of Offers: September 24, 2001

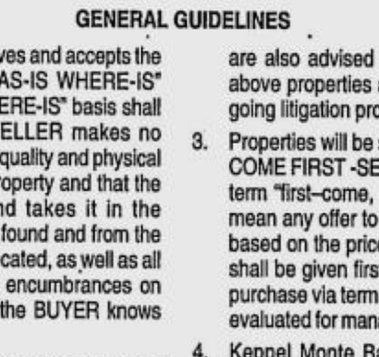
At a minimum, each offeror/instructor must meet the following requirements:

a. Have obtained a college degree;
b. Have excellent knowledge of the grammar, idiom, syntax and pronunciation of both Filipino and English;
c. Have at least three years of experience requiring the application of instructional skills and techniques and effective communication with students;
d. Have no adverse criminal record; and
e. Have no political or business affiliation that could be considered contrary to interests of the United States.

Interested instructors and/or learning institutions capable of providing these services are invited to submit a letter of intent to participate in the solicitation anytime but not later than **September 18, 2001**, to the Contracting Office, American Embassy, Manila, through fax no. 833-8302. If you wish to hand-carry your letter, and receive a copy of the Request for Quotation (RFQ), please fax the following information at least one (1) day in advance for access clearance: company name, name of representative; date and time of arrival and make, model, color and plate number of vehicle (if any). For information, call 523-1001 local 2787 or 2713.

(PDI – Sept. 16, 2001)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC



ROSENNE MONTES-BAAY
"GING-GING"

The public is informed that Mrs. Rosenne Montes-Baay, whose picture appears above was issued a Warrant of Arrest by the MTCC Butuan City, Branch I & II in Criminal Cases # 23504, 23505, 23506, 23525, 23526, 22515, 22516, 22517, 22518, 22519 and 22520 all for viol of Bp. Blg. 22. The warrant remains not served for failure to locate her. Reward awaits information leading to her arrest. Please call (085) 342-5880/341-9827 or report this to the nearest PNP or NBI office.

Any information provided shall be treated with strict confidentiality.

(PDI – Sept. 16, 2001)

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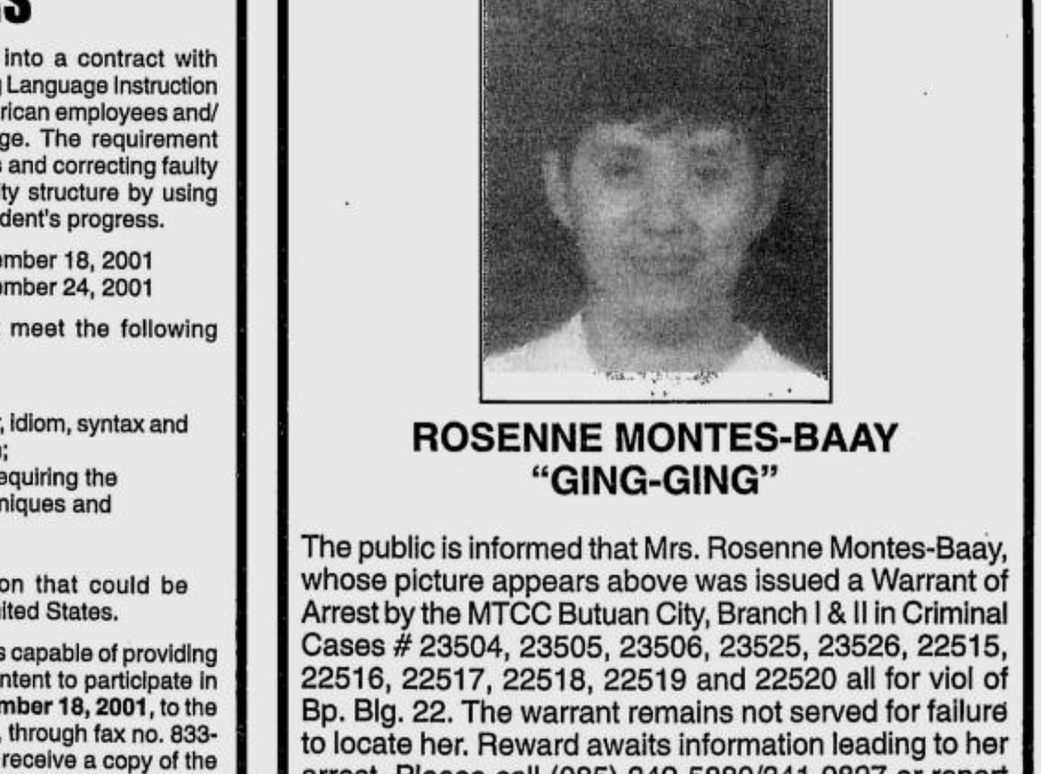

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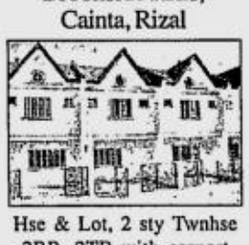

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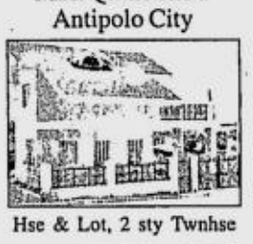

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Address	Lot Area	Improvements	Flr Area	Price
ANTIPOLO				
Lot 2 Blk. 2 Ph. 3 Adama St. Manville 2 Subd.	178	2-storey with 5BR & 3TB	203	2.3M
No. 48 Diamond St. Teramil Subd	302	4-unit townhouses	299	3.0M
BACOOR, CAVITE				
Lot 18 Blk. 1 St. Michael Subd. Bo. Talaba	300	one-storey with 2BR & 2TB	180	2.2M
BIÑAN, LAGUNA				
Lot 4 Blk. 10 Ph. 5 Mirasol St. San Jose Village	150	single-detached with 3BR & 1TB	70	1.25M
Lot 37 Blk. 15 Ph. 6 Sitay St., San Jose Village	140	bungalow with 1BR & 1TB	70	1.05M
BULACAN				
Putong Buhangin Sta. Maria	5764	bungalow with 2BR & 1TB	100	5.5M
1029 Libis St. Saluysoy, Meycauayan	856.33	single-detached with 7BR & 7TB	305.5	5.5M
CABUYAO, LAGUNA				
Lot 8 Blk. 13, Brilliant St. Shineland Village	180	single-detached with 2BR & 1TB	157.5	1.2M
CAINTA, RIZAL				
Lot 1 Blk. 9 Mt. Apo cor. Sierra Madre Suburban Hts.	200	bungalow with 3BR & 2TB	78	1.1M
No. 11 Burnley St. Brookside Hills Subd.	265	2-storey with 4BR & 2TB	195	1.6M
CALOOCAN CITY				
9 Malanut St. Amparo Subd., Novaliches	256	2-storey with 5BR & 3TB	177	1.44M
Lot 46 Blk. 1 Cenero Subd., Deparo	779	2-storey building	520	2M
IMUS, CAVITE				
Balmbing Drive Medicon 1	170	bungalow with 2BR & 2TB	140	1.7M
GMA, CAVITE				
Lot 4 Blk. 24 Masikap St	200	unfinished 2-storey unit	253	1.08M
LAS PIÑAS CITY				
Lot 10 Blk. 1 B. Gutierrez St., BF Resort	267	3-storey with 3BR & 2TB	236	2.7M
MAKATI CITY				
Cityland 8 Condominium Sen. Gil Puyat, Unit 715		residential (2BR & 2TB)	64.78	3ST/sqm
Cityland 8 Condominium Sen. Gil Puyat, Unit UG7		commercial unit	75.69	42 S/sqm
Cityland 8 Condominium Sen. Gil Puyat, Unit 1030		residential (1BR & 1TB)	33.26	1M
Cityland 8 Condominium Sen. Gil Puyat, Unit 823		residential (1BR & 1TB)	33.11	1M
Cityland 8 Condominium Sen. Gil Puyat, Unit 251		commercial unit	20.32	28T/sqm
Cityland 8 Condominium Sen. Gil Puyat, Unit 249		commercial unit	33.19	930T
Cityland 8 Condominium Sen. Gil Puyat, Unit 255		commercial unit	33.19	28T/sqm
Cityland 8 Condominium Sen. Gil Puyat, Unit 238		commercial unit	20.76	28T/sqm
Cityland 8 Condominium Sen. Gil Puyat, Unit 241		commercial unit	20.76	28T/sqm
Cityland 8 Condominium Sen. Gil Puyat, Unit 242		commercial unit	10.98	28T/sqm
MALABON				
108 Arasity Ave. Tinajeros	61	2-storey apartment with 3BR & 2TB	72	560T
MANILA				
307-313 Ramirez St. San Nicolas	140	3-storey house/ mezzanine	611	14M
MANDALUYONG				
Unit M-35, 3/F Bldg. 2 Sambahayan Condominium Secretario St.		condominium with 1BR & 1TB	40.44	400T
MARIKINA				
11 E. Santos St., Unit D Concepcion Townhomes Concepcion		2-storey townhouse with 3BR & 2TB	62.5	1M

Address	Lot Area	Improvements	Flr Area	Price
MONTALBAN (Rodriguez), RIZAL				
Lot 3 Blk. 5 St. John St. King David Subd.	178	1-storey with 4BR & 2TB	72.8	600T
Lot 25 Blk. 19 Mt. Baco St. Amityville Subd. San Jose	240	unfinished 2-storey with 5BR & 2TB	283	1.4M
MUNTINLUPA				
125 Lipa St. Ayala Alabang Village	864	2-storey with 4BR & 4TB swimming pool	548.5	20M
245 Camachile St. Ayala Alabang Village	306	2-storey with 4BR & 3TB	148	7M
NOVELETA, CAVITE				
No. 360 Int. San Rafael III	417	residential compound (a bungalow with 1BR & 1TB & another 1-storey with basement 1BR & 1TB)	275	1.2M
PARAÑAQUE CITY				
Lot 1 Blk. 5 Emeteric St. Greenheights Subd	1221	bungalow with 4BR & 3TB	285	6M
1379 Mactan St. Baclaran	99	4-storey building with terrace	250	4.87M
No. 3 Edinburgh St. South Greenpark Greenville, Ph. IV Merville	190	1-storey with 2BR & 2TB	89	2M
PASIG CITY				
114 Panama cor. Kingston St., Pasig Greenpark	292	single-detached with 4BR & 3TB	191	1.8M
120 Rome St., Pasig Greenpark	200	2-storey with 4BR & 3TB	149	1.8M
No. 8 Butterfly St. Valle Verde 6	810	2-storey with 6BR & 6TB maid's quarter and guard's quarter	552	30M
QUEZON CITY				
No. 9 D Mozart St. Greenville Subd. Tandang Sora	42	2-storey townhouse with 3BR & 2TB	81.6	1.2M
No. 4 Gen. Tinio St. La Loma	120	3-door apartment type building	238	3M
Lot 1 Blk. 5 General Ave. GSIS Village Project 8	330	5-storey unfinished building	1181	12M
QUEZON CITY / NOVALICHES				
Unit 3 Ma. Rosario Homes, TS Cruz Subd. Brgy. San Agustin Novaliches	36.2	townhouse with 2BR & 1TB	48	500T
Unit 17 Ma. Rosario Homes, TS Cruz Subd. Brgy. San Agustin Novaliches	35.1	townhouse with 2BR & 1TB	52.12	450T
SAN JUAN				
Unit 502 Casa Madrid Condominium Villa Pasadena 209 Pasadena Drive		condo unit with 3BR & 2TB plus servant's quarter with TB	122.22	3.75M
Unit P02 and P03 Casa Madrid Condo Villa Pasadena 209 Pasadena Drive		2-level condominium unit with 3BR & 4TB servant's quarter with TB	322.62	1.292M
SAN MATEO, RIZAL				
Lot 16 Blk. 23 Colorado St. Greenland Newtown Subd	204	duplex-type (1-storey) with 2BR & 1TB/ 3BR & 1TB	132.92	1.5M
STA. ROSA, LAGUNA				
Lot 18 Blk. 3 Sta. Rosa Village Ph. 4-A	146	2-storey with 2BR & 1TB	70	1.3M

845-6848 PROPERTY MANAGEMENT AND SALES HOTLINE
Note: Prices are subject to change without prior notice

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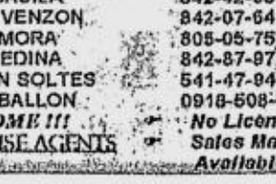

VICTORIA - 3BR, 2T&B PRICE - P2M
LA - 140 SQ.M. FA - 86 SQ.M.

SOFIA - 2BR, 1T&B PRICE - P1,305,246
LA - 112 SQ.M. FA - 45 SQ.M.

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PARAÑAQUE

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BF Homes Pque / LP 3-4 BR / 3 T&B / 2-CAR
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ROEL BASILA	842-42-36
MARIE VENZON	842-07-64
JAY JAMORA	805-05-75
TINA MEDINA	842-87-97
EVELYN SOLTES	541-47-94
ROMY BALLON	0918-508-98-79

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Ortigas Ext Class 1 duplex garage 1.2M neg 6300418

Bentley Park Subd LA108 FA100 3br2tb 09178174547

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2Hse 4br 3tb mds qtr w/2car grg each Nr. SM City & Cherry Foodarama 920-3577 10M

Cheap P980T only 260m² nr Robinson, SMFview 4140418

QUEZON CITY

Mira Nila QC 354FA 5br 5t&b 3stry 150LA 6.5M 9289714/9279699/4532899

Nr. Ateneo 3.5M 681-9868

Proj 4 up/down 2BR 2TB 1Garage 0916-3862982

QC nr ABS-CBN
600, 700, 1500 up 15-18T
Q. AVE., BANAWE, GOV. F.
475m² 23T 1380m² 35T up
NEW MLA SCOUT WEST TRI
bnew 4M 8M 12Mup3717580

SECURITY BANK

SLASHED-OFF CALL:

•HOUSE & LOT•

LAS PIÑAS CITY

1. Paris St., BF International Vill. 1 stry. LA- 560 FA- 349 5BR / 2TB w/garage Minimum bid:P2,940,000

QUEZON CITY

2. Ideal Subd, Capitol District 1 stry. LA-498 FA-120 Minimum bid:P2,700,000
3. Mira Nila Subdivision 2 stry. LA-522 / FA- 630.25 4BR/4TB w/terrace & attic Minimum bid:P5,335,000

TAGUIG

4. Holy Family Subd. Bago Byn. 3 stry. w/whse, & garage bldg LA-520 / FA-79 Minimum bid:P2,200,000

BULACAN

5. Violeta Subd., Guiguinto 1sty, 2BR, 1TB LA-240 FA-170 Minimum bid:P1,250,000

BATANGAS

6. Lamar St., Lipa City 4BR/2TB w/porch 1 stry. LA-288 / FA-141.5 Minimum bid:P940,000
7. Alpha St., St. Peter Subd Alangilan, Batangas City 1 stry. LA-324 / FA-191.22 Minimum bid:P1,540,000
8. Golden Country Homes 1 stry. La-299 / FA-63 2BR / 1TB Minimum bid:P780,000

LUCENA

9. Rosario Village, Iyam 1 stry. LA-296 / FA-141 Minimum bid:P 1,330,000

QUEZON PROVINCE

10. Poblacion, Lucban 2 stry. LA-112 / FA-217.36 Minimum bid:P1,700,000

SECURITY BANK

PUBLIC 8943035 / 52

•TOWNHOUSE •

MUTINLUPA

11. Tunasan Townhouse 2 stry. LA-45 / FA- 84 Minimum bid:P510,000

QUEZON CITY

12. Le Marquis Townhomes 2 stry. 2BR/1TB FA-49.96 Minimum bid:P 1,080,000
13. Park Ave. Townhomes 2BR/2TB FA-106.80 w/parking Minimum bid:P1,660,000

RIZAL

14. Le Metropole Family Court 2 stry. LA-57/FA-112 2BR/2TB Minimum bid:P1,350,000

•CONDOMINIUM•

MAKATI CITY

15. Prince Tower Condo Resdl. Unit FA-61.18 Minimum bid:P2,295,000
16. The Peak Tower Condominium Resdl. Unit FA-45 Minimum bid:P1,875,000

QUEZON CITY

17. Project Condominium Bldg. Comml. Unit FA- 71.470 Minimum bid:P1,610,000
18. Project Condominium Bldg. Resdl. Unit FA-64.93 2BR Minimum bid:P1,320,000

SAN JUAN

19. Goldland Tower Resdl. Unit FA-160.5 3BR Minimum bid:P5,420,000

•LOTS •

LAS PIÑAS

20. Jasmin St., Dña Leoncia Subd. Resdl. Lot LA-553 Minimum bid:P2,300,000

QUEZON CITY

21. Kingston St., Vista Real Classica Resdl. Lot LA-370

BANK AUCTION 6331988 - 90

22. Mapagbigay St., Teachers Vil. Resdl. Lot LA-401.6 Minimum bid:P4,820,000

BULACAN

23. Gold Ridge Subd., Tabang (2) Resdl. Lots @ LA-240/each Minimum bid:P900,000/each

TAGAYTAY

24. Tagaytay City Homes II Resdl. Lot LA-220 Minimum bid:P825,000

CAVITE

25. Manila Southwoods, Carmona Resdl. Lot La-465 Minimum bid:P3,255,000
26. Southwood Villas, Dasmariñas (10)Resdl. Lots @ 155 sq.m UP Minimum bid:P2,400/sq.m

BATANGAS

28. City Park Ave., Sabang, Lipa Resdl. Lot LA-1,480 Minimum bid:P8,745,000

LAGUNA

29. Legaspi St. Las Villas de Manila Resdl. Lot LA-365 Minimum bid:P2,740,000
30. Holiday Park Subd., Sn. Pedro (4) Resdl. Lots LA-174 sqm. UP Minimum bid:P2,200/SQM.

RIZAL

31. Brookside Hills Subd., Cainta Resdl. Lot LA-295 Minimum bid:P885,000
32. Cottonwood Heights, Antipolo (9)Resdl. Lots @ 193 sq.m UP Minimum bid:P5,500/sq.m

September 29,2001
Saturday - 9:00 AM
Makati Sports Club
Leviste St.,Salcedo Vil.
Makati City

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WESTVILLE HOMES 3
Ligas, Bacoor, Cavite
Initial DP: P 15,000

Developer:
CASIMIRO DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

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Legaspi Village, Makati City
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LAGUNA H/L 125m² Palo Alto Highlands1 Subd. Cal. Call Thelma 0917-9929206

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316m² Flr200m² 0464134249

OTHER AREAS

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VARIOUS AREAS

378m² 3sty Fully Furn Proj4 369m² cor Lot Pilar Vill Call 421-8012 ; 440-7109

LOT

OTHER AREAS

OTHER AREAS

LOT

QUEZON CITY

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PROJ.6 900m² 9263307 DBO

OTHER AREAS

NOTICE TO SELL

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1. 4 parcels of land; location: Santiago, Isabela; total land area: 14,345 sqm; price: P 2.5M
2. 1 parcel of land; location: Orani, Bataan; land area: 19,057 sqm; price: P 55/sqm
3. 1 parcel of land; location: Mission Hills, Antipolo City; land area: 1,090 sqm; price: P5,500/sqm
4. 1 parcel of land; location: Mandaluyong City; land area: 288 sqm; price: P 12,000/sqm

For inquiries, please contact David Ulep of SFI Credit and Collection Dept. at tel. no. 631-9236 or 631-8101 loc. 7443-7445.

MANDALUYONG

Banahaw Mand LA443 P15T/m² 740-6104 • 0917-3310762

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CONDO/TWNHSE/APT

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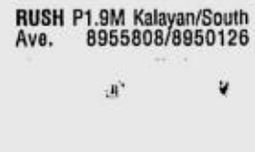
METRO BAGUIO
P870T to P1.5M



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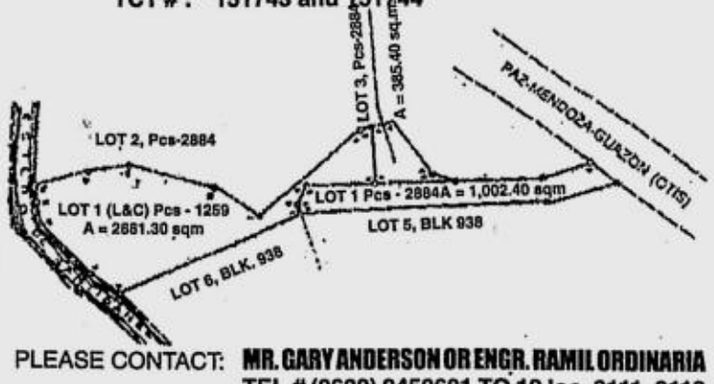

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Fully Furnished and Newly Renovated
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QUEZON CITY

★ Legaspi Vil-BSA
Tower 1BR 4260531/6266

SAN JUAN

GHills Std Sem Furn w/ Fon Call 7267615 09178129625

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FOR LEASE/RENT

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Thank you Mama Mary

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E B
Sa kalokohan at sa[illegible]
E B A
Hindi maawat[illegible] isa't isa.

Ilang taon din tayong nagsa[illegible]
Isang barkada na kay saya
Laging may hawak[illegible]
Konting udyok lama[illegible]
E-E7
na.

REFRAIN:
A B C
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G#7 C#m
Walang mabibigat na sulranin.
A AM7/Bb
Walang problema kahit kulang
G#m, C#m
ang datung.
A B E
Magkaibigan habang panahon.

CHORUS:
E B
Magkaibigan, magkaibigan
A E
Magkaibigan habang panahon.
E B
Magkaibigan, magkaibigan
A E
Magkaibigan habang panahon.

Kahit saan man mapadpad ang ilan
Pagkakaibiga'y di maliilimutan
Kahit anuman ang pangarap ay
E
Makakamit ng ating samahan

Magkaibigan, magkaibigan
Magkaibigan habang panahon
Magkaibigan, magkaibigan
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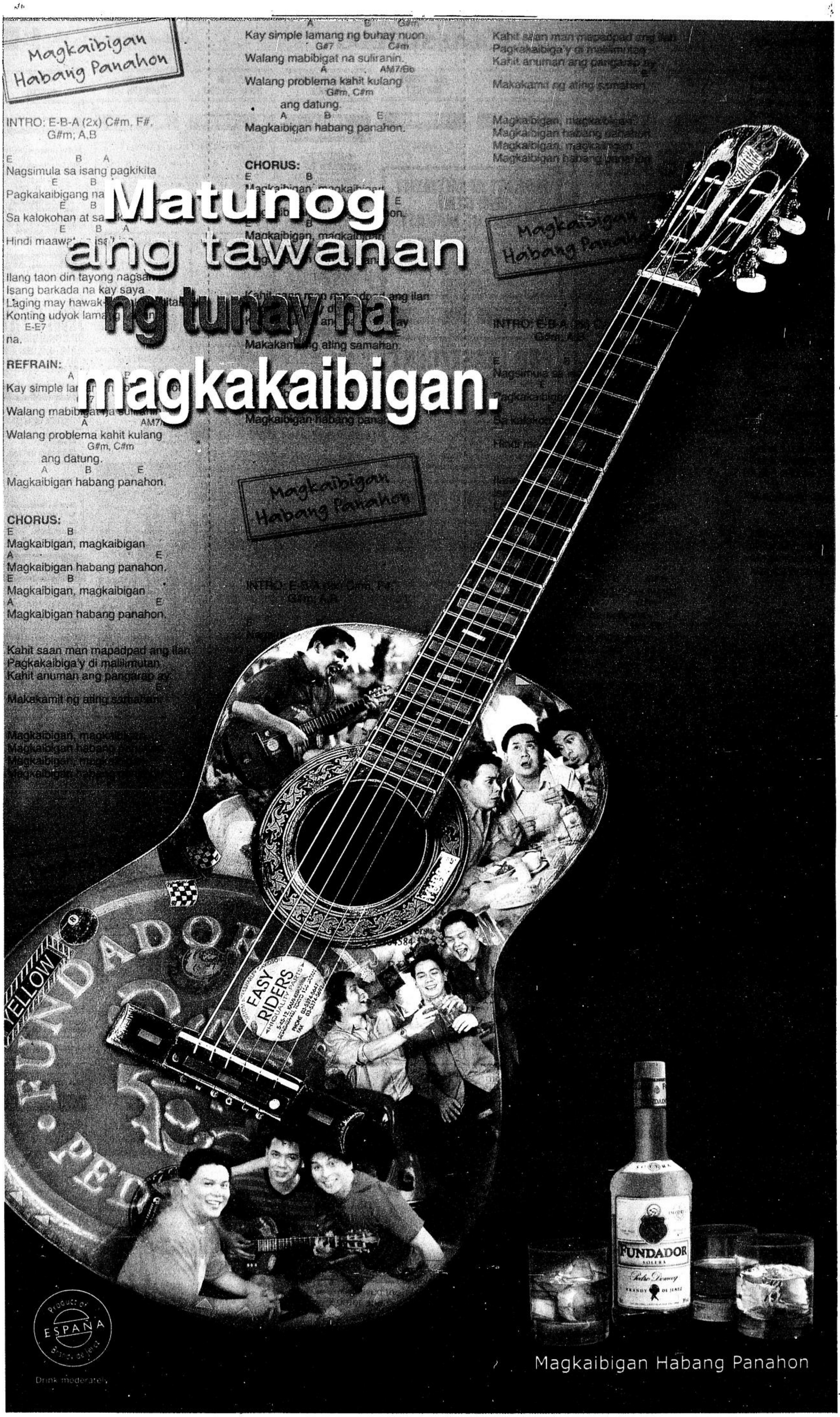

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THE ONES WHO GOT AWAY

Twice blessed

BY CATHY BABAO GUBALLA

ON TUESDAY night, Romy Lualhati, executive vice president of Manulife Philippines, and his wife Dollie were busy hosting a *despedida* for a cousin at their Quezon City residence when news about the attack on the World Trade Center Towers flashed on CNN.

Oblivious to the news program as they were both busy attending to guests, it was only when a neighbor called to inform Romy that the WTC had been struck by a plane that he stopped what he was doing and sat before the TV stunned beyond belief. The Lualhatis have four daughters living in Manhattan. Two of them, Pinky, 32, and Rutzy, 31, worked at the World Trade Center. When Dollie finally got wind of the news, she immediately fell to her knees shaking. "My first thought was 'Thank you, Lord, for saving my girls.' Then I just broke down and cried."

Pinky had been working as a financial analyst at Credit Suisse, which makes its home on Tower 5 just beneath Tower 1 for the last two years. She had been itching to go on a much-needed vacation and had everything planned for the long Labor Day weekend two weeks ago. At the last minute, a friend of hers asked for help in moving to a new apartment. Unable to refuse, she decided to put off the vacation and left instead on the morning of Sept. 8 for a week-long holiday in San Francisco together with the same friend who worked in the neighboring World Financial Center. Upon hearing the news, she immediately called her officemates at Credit Suisse and the person on the other end of the line told her that they were being evacuated. Seven minutes after that phone call, the North Tower collapsed. Very much shaken, she called her parents in Manila just to inform them that she was all right. As of this writing, Pinky remains in San Francisco hoping that she will be able to return home to New York on Saturday.

The other daughter, Rutzy, was working for Oppenheimer Funds, an investment company whose offices are on the 30s floor of the South Tower. Just two weeks ago, she left the company to join a large legal firm called Allen & Overy. "A former boss invited her to join him at the firm and she was very hesitant to leave Oppenheimer and was in a great dilemma. So I asked her what her priorities were," Romy relates. "When that became clear, she decided to take the offer of Allen & Overy but of course, there was still some regret on her part," he adds. However, after the tragedy that struck last Tuesday, Rutzy can only be grateful at how the Lord's hand was at work in her and her sister's lives. For most of us, there are times when we simply must heed an inner voice that speaks and leads us to where we must go even though our human side tells us to go against it. "I really believe things happen for a reason and though at first it didn't make sense to me to work for a law firm again, I'm really just thankful I opted out of Oppenheimer and that Pinky's on vacation," Rutzy wrote in an e-mail soon after the incident. The Lualhatis relate how Rutzy told them in an e-mail that the plane had hit the 50s floor, missing the Oppenheimer offices by only a few floors. "She was really shaken and kept crying on the phone," says Romy.

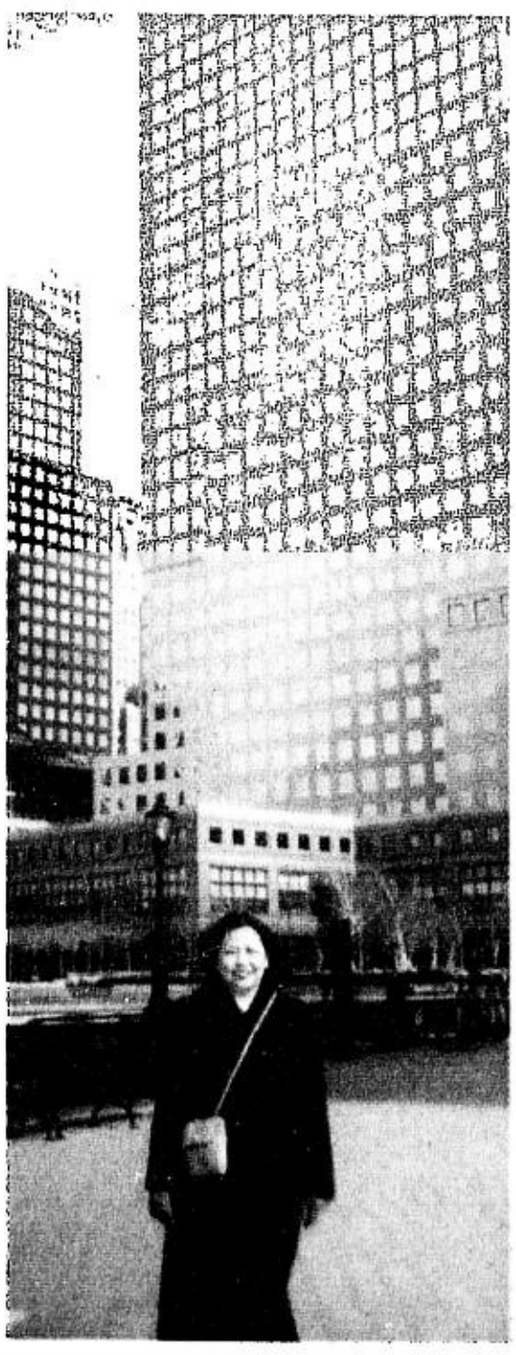
Romy and Dollie Lualhati cannot thank the Lord enough for saving their two daughters from the tragedy that struck and for keeping their other two daughters out of harm's way. The youngest is currently on vacation in Manila while the other daughter was busy at work in mid-Manhattan that fateful morning.

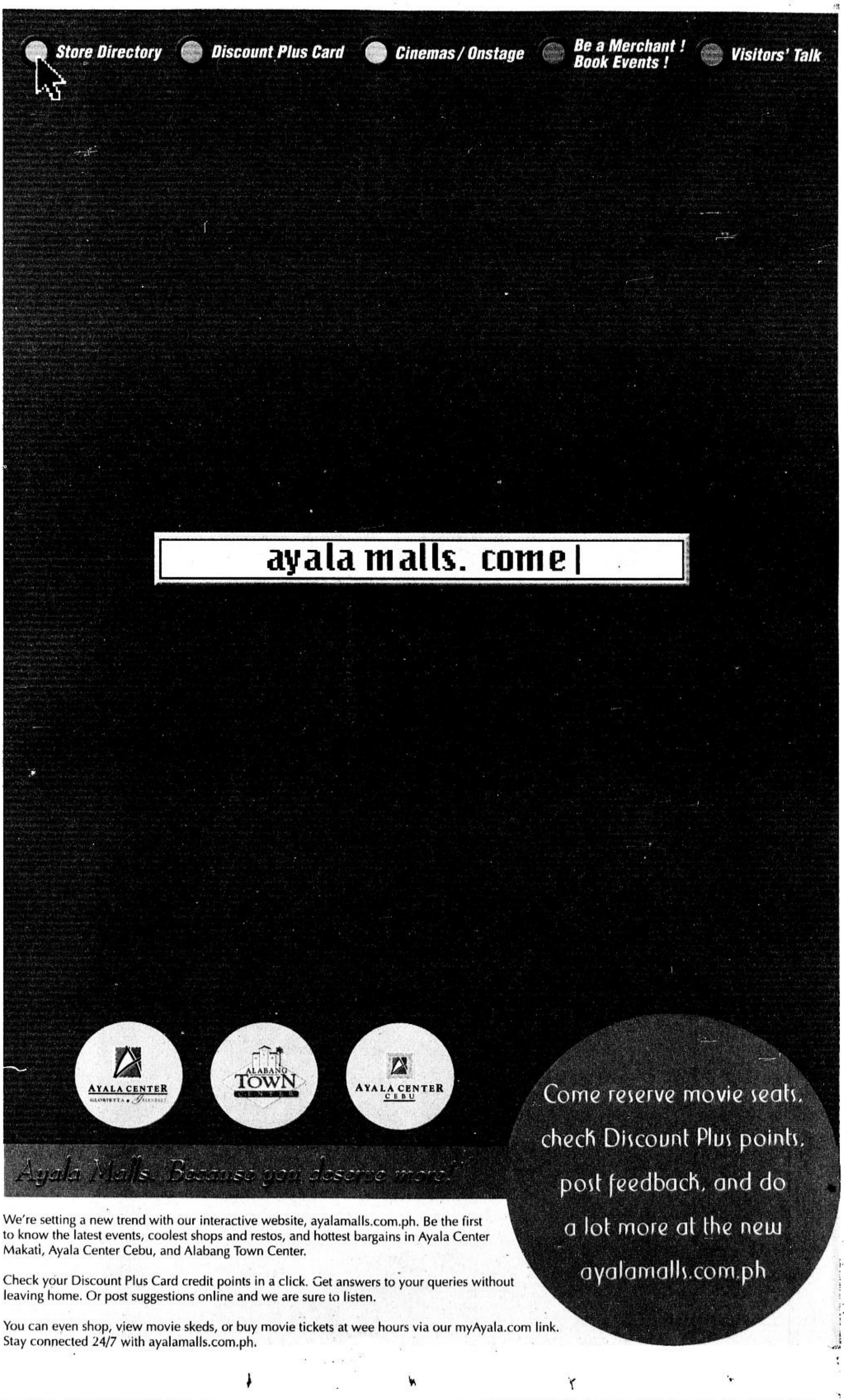
In another heartfelt e-mail Rutzy wrote, "I try not to dwell so much on the what ifs but it's hard not to. Pinky and I could have been there. I guess mom's prayers are strong, for no matter what we do, we're still being watched and taken cared of. We're very grateful for that."

The Lualhatis commiserate with the families who have lost loved ones in the assault. Clearly, this is not just an American tragedy. "It could have happened to us," says Romy.

E-mail the author at cbguballa-@inquirer.com.ph

PROTECTED BY HIS HAND. Pinky, Dollie, Romy and Rutzy Lualhati


PICTURE PERFECT. Pinky in front of the WTC



'It's wrong to compare this to Pearl Harbor'

BY ALEX Y. VERGARA

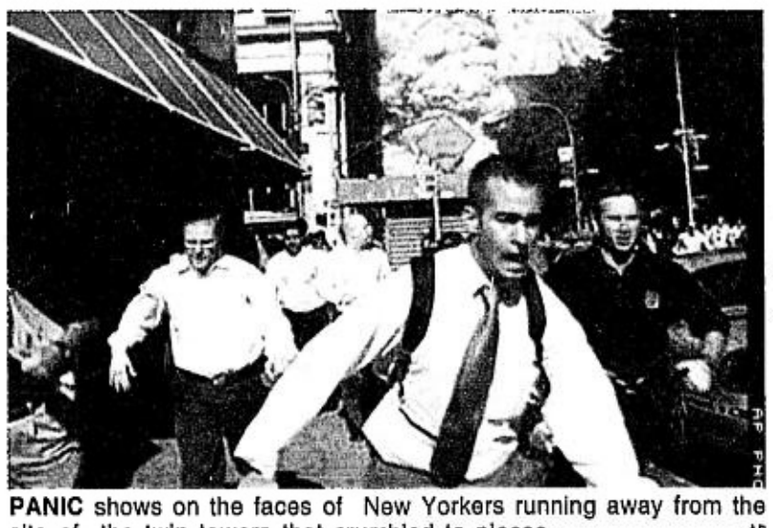
CHICAGO—References to Japan's surprise bombing of Pearl Harbor more than 50 years ago kept popping up as Americans tried to make sense of the tragedy and mayhem that befell their nation soon after a series of terrorist attacks blasted major American symbols of power and wealth Monday morning.

"It's wrong to compare this [development] to Pearl Harbor," said American lawyer Cass Sunstein, professor of jurisprudence of the University of Chicago Law School. "For now, there's no nation to declare war against. [Franklin] Roosevelt was successful in rallying the nation because there was a powerful country (Japan) involved."

Together with nine other journalists the world over, this writer is currently in the United States pursuing a journalism fellowship sponsored by the World Press Institute. Like majority of Americans, we sat dumbfounded in our rooms as images of the burning World Trade Center towers in Manhattan flashed on our TV screens. An Indian colleague wanted to fly to New York at the behest of his New Delhi-based editor pronto. Alas, flights all over this usually mobile country had been cancelled, airborne flights diverted to Canada.

Roads leading to downtown Chicago, as we wound our way to the university, were unusually quiet as most people stayed indoors glued to their TV sets. The city's equally famous skyscrapers such as the Sears' Tower, Hancock Building and Daley Center closed their doors before the start of a working day. As the gravity of human suffering started filtering in, hundreds of Chicagoans heeded the call of the Red Cross to donate blood. People flocked to churches as several held unscheduled services later in the day. All around the city, flags were flying at half-mast.

"Almost 50 percent are first-time donors or haven't donated blood for a long time," said Bruna Daignas, manager of Life Source, one of 16 blood centers teeming with eager donors all over the city. "On a normal day, we attend to around 15-20 donors. More than 90 people have signed up so far. Everybody is responding."



PANIC shows on the faces of New Yorkers running away from the site of the twin towers that crumbled to pieces. AP

Sunstein, who was supposed to talk about his ideas on the political consequences of the Internet based on his latest book "Republic.com," found himself discussing instead such topics as national security and President Bush's ability—or lack of it—to lead the nation at a time of crisis. An unseen entity like cyberspace is definitely the last thing a bunch of restless, holed-up journalists would want to hear about.

The temptation to tick off a list of the usual suspects was great, but rather than point accusing fingers, Sunstein focused on the implications of the biggest and bloodiest form of terrorism to happen in American soil.

Whether top terrorist Osama Bin Laden, the Taliban or some rouge states had a hand in it, one thing was clear in Sunstein's mind: "Obviously, there has been a massive intelligence (*and security failure in various airports—AYV*) failure." Heads are likely to roll at the Central Intelligence Agency, an organization once led ironically by the president's father, former President George Bush Sr.

"He's so inexperienced, the unfolding events are completely new to him," said Sunstein, when asked to compare the son with the father. "He should probably call his dad."

"With its (CIA's) huge budget," he added, "the question on many Americans' minds as smoke billows all over Manhattan is how come we didn't know about it." A massive military buildup is in order. Bush, who as late as last week was trying to get a bigger defense budget passed, is likely to get his wish courtesy of a more sympathetic Congress. American politicians of whatever persuasions have traditionally been known to rally around a beleaguered president.

And with seasoned veterans like Vice President Dick Cheney and Secretary of State Collin Powell insulating him, an inexperienced Bush is likely to survive the political fallout. In fact, he said, it could even work in his favor.

"This event could be a turning point in the topsy-turvy Bush administration," Sunstein, an obvious Democrat, surmised. "If he's successful in rallying Americans behind him, Bush's approval rating could hit the roof. But in the long run the economy is bound to suffer." If that happens, Americans, with a low tolerance for economic hardships, would be up in arms.

> With its huge defense and intelligence budget, how could the United States be so vulnerable?

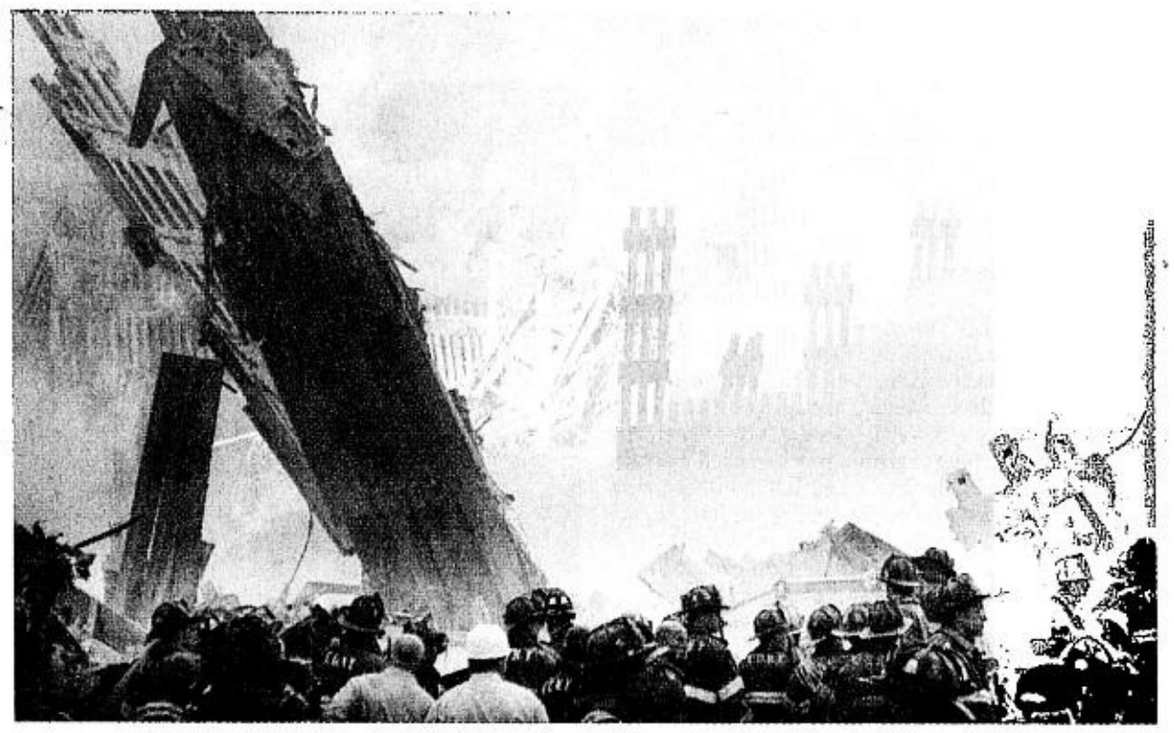
Not even massive military spending could lift the sputtering US economy. What the country needs, he said, are lower interest rates and an atmosphere that would bring back consumer confidence.

If there are lessons to be learned from this, Sunstein stressed the need for the US government to be more vigilant especially with matters concerning the country's territory. No small task considering the country's expansive land area and huge, mobile population. Despite his support to give the CIA more leeway to do its job, he voiced concern about a likely clampdown on civil liberties. Conflicts between law enforcers and civil liberties groups are bound to heighten. Air travel, as Americans know it, will never be the same again.

"Off hand," he said, "security within airports are likely to get more intense. There's a tendency for some parts of America to overreact and label people in the aftermath of a catastrophe. Arab-Americans should make sure they're safe."

With no nation likely to come forward to admit participation in these unspeakable crimes and with mounting pressure on the Bush administration to immediately target an enemy, the champion of the Free World may declare its biggest war yet against the very principles it claims to stand for.

E-mail the author at enigma0203@yahoo.com



A GROUP of firefighters stand in the street near the destroyed World Trade Center in New York. REUTERS

The scene in New York

BY YVETTE P. FERNANDEZ

Recovering from their shock, New Yorkers are dumbfounded. Why? Why? Why?

IT was like a scene out of a movie. But it was real. Way too real.

Pictures of the World Trade Center on fire. Right there on live television, we saw one tower on fire, a huge gaping hole in the familiar landmark. It was surreal. I immediately called my friend Isa who lives downtown two blocks away from the scene. She just moved here from Manila two weeks earlier.

"Isa, a plane just crashed into World Trade Center. They say it may be terrorists. Omigod! Another just crashed into the second tower. Get out of there, now!"

She dashed to her window. She could see people panicking in the streets, she said. Debris flying all over the place.

My sister Lara and I were glued to our television. President Bush vows to hunt down those responsible for the "apparent terrorist attack." An aircraft crashes into the Pentagon. A fire on the mall in Washington. A car bomb explodes at the State Department. Flights all over the United States have been cancelled.

"America Under Attack" scream the TV headlines. We're getting calls from loved ones all across America and from way across the seas, in Manila. We're okay. We're okay. We tell them. But apparently thousands of others downtown are not. We have friends who live downtown, friends and many, many colleagues who work downtown on Wall Street. We're hoping they're all okay.

Packed

I head off to work. The streets are packed with people. Many of the subway lines are closed, people are crammed into buses. All bridges and tunnels in and out of the city are closed. People are walking, heads bowed, or looking lost, distracted. People try to use their cell phones but cannot. Traffic jams in all directions. But no horns are blowing. Strange for New York City. An eerie sense of silence. Just the distant blare of sirens.

Just got a call from Isa. She's in my midtown apartment, in tears.

"Yvette, I thought I was going to die," she cries. "I was right there when the first tower collapsed. A huge, rumbling sound! I saw it all. It was black, so much smoke. No one could see anything."

People were jumping out of the buildings, she says. She actually saw people jumping out of the buildings!

She's just called home, she says. They know she's safe. Why in the world did she move to New York?!

My phone has been ringing off the hook. My Filipino friends checking on other Filipino friends, who work, live downtown. We're all family to each other, have been for many years.

Yes, I just heard from Michelle and Dino, I tell my friend Eric. They both work downtown but are now safe at home midtown.

Michelle is worried about Noel who works right across the scene. No one has heard from him yet. Nor has anyone heard from our other friend Babette. Many phone lines still horribly busy.

A call from our Tokyo office checking to see if I've heard about the Japanese reporter at the New York Stock Exchange. Mayumi's parents are oh so worried. Please call us as soon as you hear anything.

Another friend, Elaine, who lives downtown calls from midtown. Go to my apartment, I tell her. My sister is there with lots of food. Stay with us tonight. She's fine for now, she says. But she'll be in touch.

Lara calls from home. She's just been to the grocery where the lines are snaking to the checkout counters. People are panic-buying. Loading their carts with bread, milk, canned goods, bottled water. She's spoken to her friends Nana and Joan who work downtown, and our cousin Paula who lives down there. They're all welcome to stay at our place if they need to.

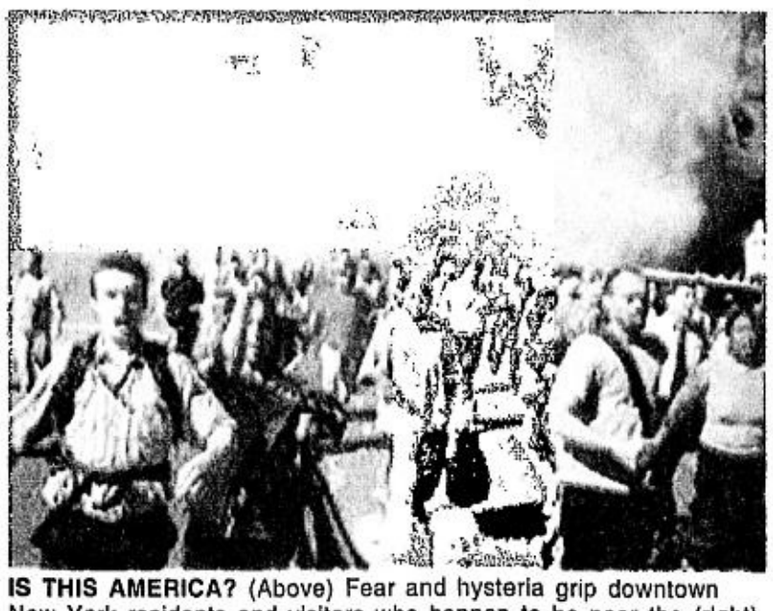
Safe at home

Memos from human resources here at work. People who live in Manhattan can go home if they feel it is safe to do so. Arrangements being made for people who live out of the city to stay at hotels. Lots of food available for us in the conference rooms if we need it. A plea is being made for blood donations. A shortage of blood in D.C. and New York, we're told. Please go to the nearest hospital to donate blood.

Finally Noel is safe at home all the way uptown. He walked over a hundred blocks to get there and his feet are covered with calluses, but he's fine.

"At least I can walk. Other people can't even walk, he says," his voice breaking. "We saw it. We saw the second plane crash into the second tower. It happened right before our eyes as we were evacuating our building at the World Financial across the street."

The television continues to blare out the latest news. Just pictures of smoke and debris and panic. Still no pictures of the dead or wounded. Still no faces to this horrible tragedy that has shocked the world. By the time this story goes to press, there will probably be many. Tens of thousands of stories to be told about the tens of thousands of people killed or wounded in this horrible tragedy. And the millions of people in the city who knew them, whose lives they touched. Mothers, fathers, children, colleagues, friends. And the millions of people in America and billions all over the world who have been glued to their TV sets for hours, wondering why? Why? Why? Why?



IS THIS AMERICA? (Above) Fear and hysteria grip downtown New York residents and visitors who happen to be near the (right) World Trade Center, which goes up (and down) in smoke after two planes hit the towers separately. PHOTOS: AP

The terror of it all

BY GEMMA NEMENZO

I AM awakened by Maia, my 13-year-old daughter, who is screaming, "Mama, the World Trade Center tower collapsed!" I bolt out of bed and run downstairs to turn on the TV.

What I see is a scene so totally insane: billowing smoke out of one of the WTC towers then a plane crashing into the other one. I literally freeze in my seat—from the shock, the unspeakable horror, partly still from disbelief. The reports are coming fast and furious: the Pentagon has been hit, a car bomb has exploded in Washington, D.C., flights all over the country have been cancelled, airports closed, government buildings and San Francisco landmarks evacuated.

I run upstairs to wake up Jaja, my older daughter, who has lived in New York for the past two years but has decided to study in San Francisco this semester. "The World Trade Center has been bombed," I say, and she picks up her glasses and runs downstairs yelling, "No, no" with her every step. She is almost hysterical as we watch the two ubiquitous New York landmarks collapse to rubble. For Jaja, the pain is like losing something personal. When she was at her dorm, she saw the twin towers from her window. She had found her way through the streets of Lower Manhattan and Greenwich Village by situating herself in relation to the towers.

Steve, who, like most Americans born after World War II, has not experienced any terror this close to home, is already glued to the TV set. "I just feel so personally assaulted," he says. "It feels like I'm being hit in the chest by an unknown force."

I call Maia's school to find out if classes have been suspended. "No," the attendance officer declares, her voice betraying her fear, "but if you want to keep your child home, we will understand." Maia squeezes in beside me on the recliner and the four of us are mesmerized and speechless at the scenes unfolding before us.

We who live in the US have been quite smug about the threat of terrorism. Sure, we hear the warnings and we are aware that as the world's only remaining superpower, the country is definitely a target. But the constant rhetoric we also hear about how the country's military and intelligence capabilities are unsurpassed has allowed us a sense of security that has made us poohpooh the threats as mere saber-rattling from enemies—all bark, no bite.

Shattered lives

Until today. Until we are actually seeing what we have thought as impenetrable shrines crumble to oblivion. A chill so palpable I can almost touch it runs through my spine as I go from telephone to TV to the computer, trying to contact friends in New York ("All circuits are busy," a recorded voice declares). In San Francisco, all schools and many offices are closed. All three airports have been evacuated. Many malls decide to shut down completely. I get a call from my boss, who is making sure everyone is accounted for.

Our carefully crafted and comfortable lives have been shattered by terrorist acts so well coordinated and sophisticated, one can't help but be impressed despite the rage that is starting to consume us. Government officials are saying that this is the beginning of a very different era in America, that life as we know it will never be the same.

Steve articulates the fear that has been brewing in me. The warmongers in Washington, he says, could assume a bunker mentality and curtail some of the civil liberties that we have been taking for granted. A hawkish legislator has already declared that the priority now is defense, not education. Another has warned that we should be ready to give up some of the conveniences we are used to.

I call Carlo in San Diego, site of one of the US Navy's biggest installation and one of the borders to Mexico that have been declared closed. "Nothing is moving here, Mom," he describes. "Everyone has been told to go home and stay home."

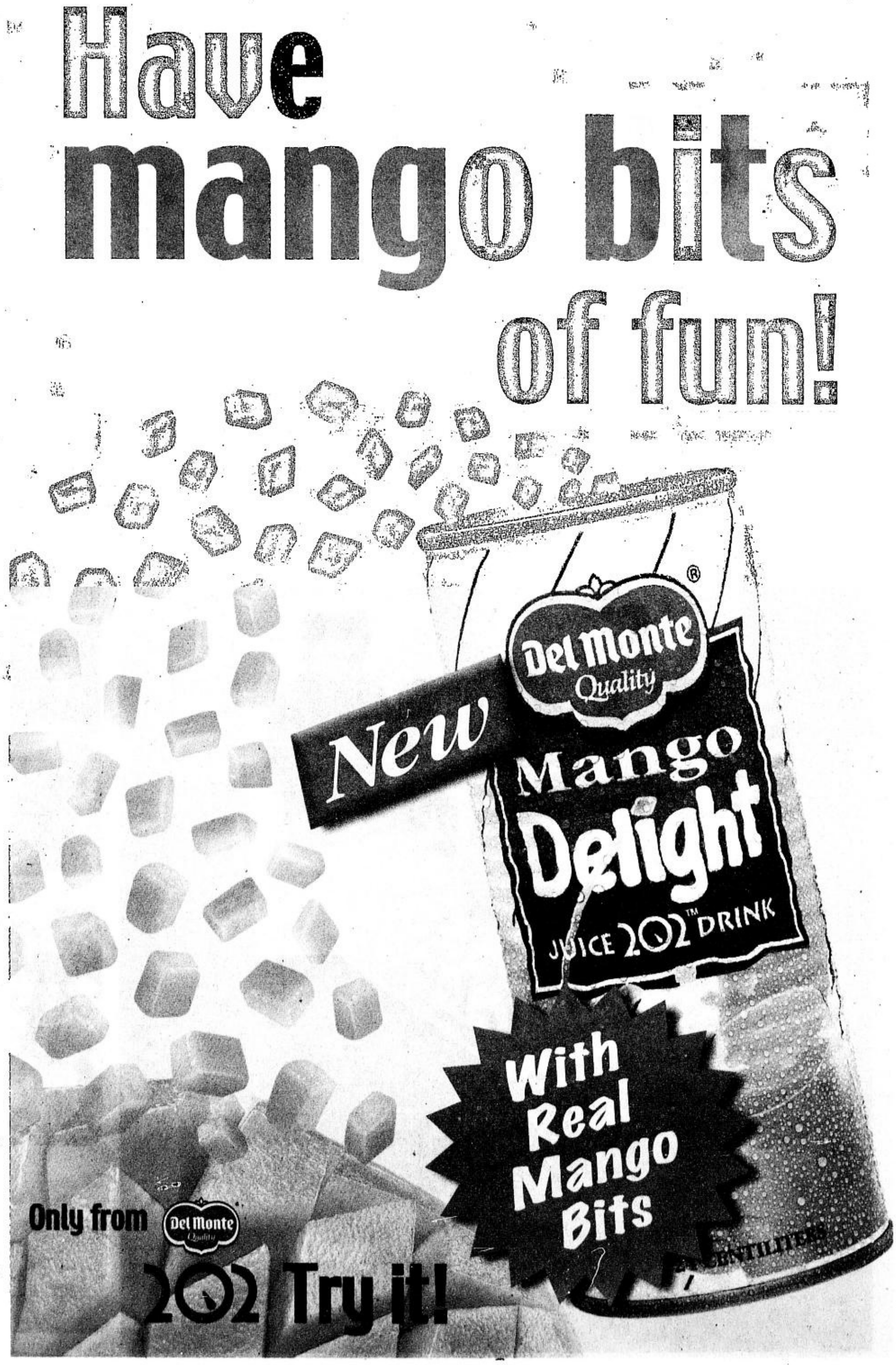
Except for the media, the entire country seems to have shut down, the people retreating to the bomb shelters in their mind.

It is almost midnight now, the end of a day of unspeakable horror. I am hardly sleepy despite a nagging headache. I decide to scrub the kitchen, do the laundry, mop the floor, water the plants, anything to keep the images of the day from slamming back into my consciousness.

I await another day in America knowing full well that everything has changed. The country is vulnerable after all and in just a matter of minutes, the greatest power in the world had become just another nation dogged by instability and uncertainty.

May God grant us the good sense to be humbled, and strengthened, by all these.

Gemma Nemenzo is a columnist for Filipinas, a monthly magazine in San Francisco. She can be reached at Gnn88@aol.com.



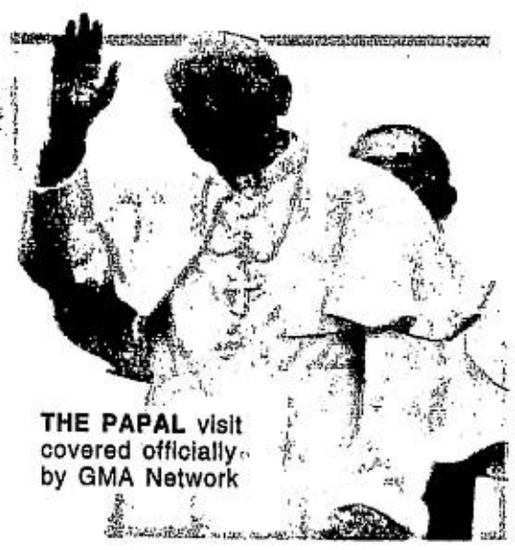
LAUNCH ceremonies hosted by Mike Enriquez and attended by broadcast luminaries

LAURICE Gullilen, Maan Hontiveros and German Moreno

RUDY Fernandez, Edu Manzano and German Moreno

GMA Network's COO Gilberto Duavit Jr., chair, president and CEO Felipe Gozon and Vice President Teofisto Guingona

Book chronicles network's golden history



THE PAPAL visit covered officially by GMA Network

THE MULTIPLE personalities of Michael V., a mainstay of GMA Network

GMA Gold: 50 Years of Broadcast History," a coffee-table book on the 50-year history of the GMA Network, was launched recently.

The book chronicles the transformation of what used to be radio station dzBB into the multifaceted broadcast organization it is now. It features the company's memorable moments and achievements including great events in the nation's history as captured by Channel 7's News and Public Affairs programs as well as other shows that set the pace for the country's broadcast industry.

Started as radio station dzBB in 1950 by American war correspondent Bob Stewart, the triumvirate of Gilberto R. Duavit Sr., Felipe L. Gozon and Menardo R. Jimenez Sr., who bought the station in 1974, transformed the company into the dynamic network that it is today.

Vice President and Foreign Secretary Teofisto Guingona led guests who attended the book's launch at Studio 3 of the GMA Network Center.

The guests and friends from the entertainment and business sectors listened to a short speech of GMA's one and only "Kuya Germs," German Moreno, and took a trip down memory lane through a special audiovisual presentation prepared by the GMA Corporate Affairs department.

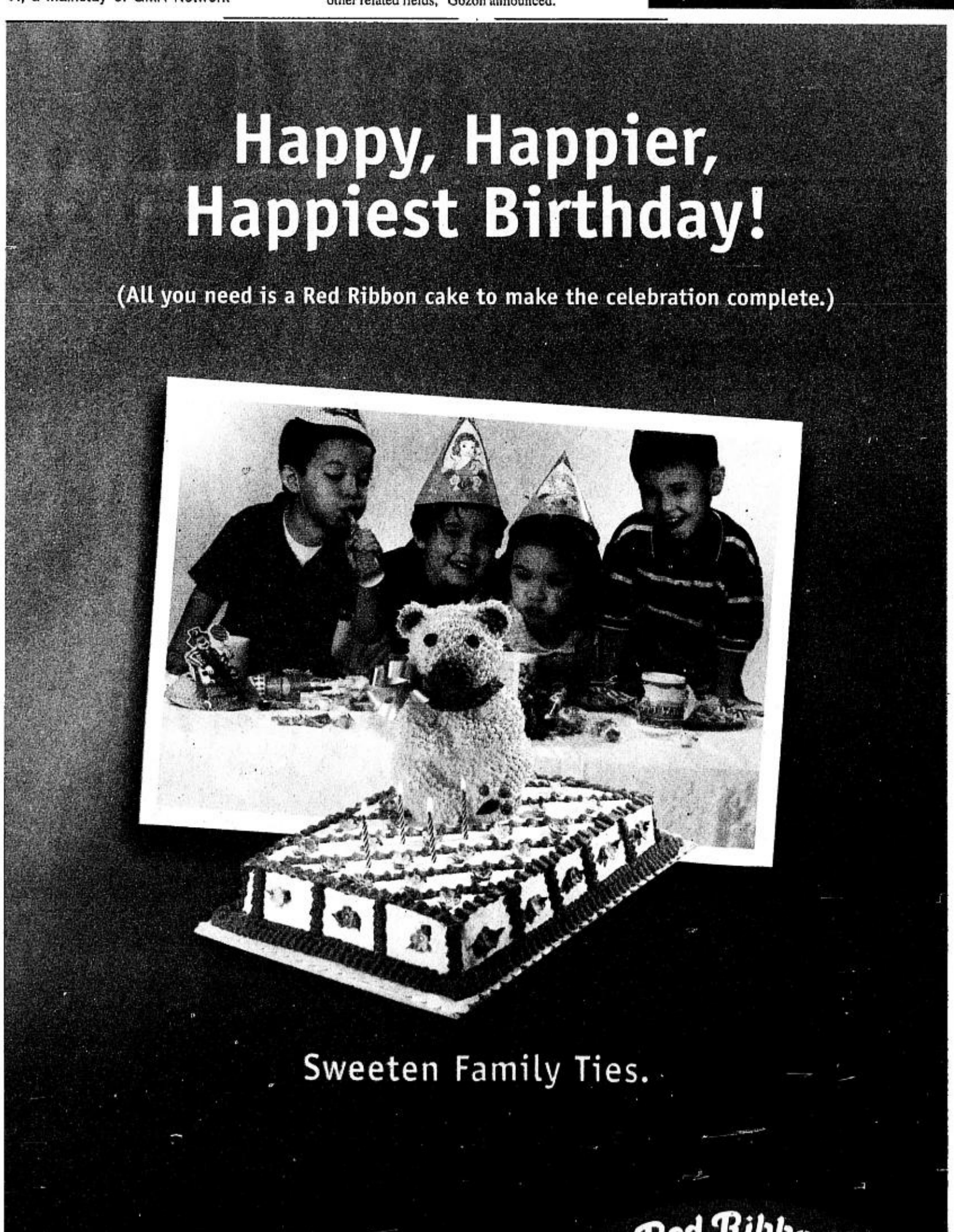
GMA chair, president and CEO Felipe L. Gozon acknowledged the people who helped and supported the network through 50 years of "struggle and success." He dedicated the book to future broadcasters and artists. "We are putting up a GMA Gold Scholarship Fund from the proceeds of the sales of the book that will provide scholarship grants to deserving students taking up broadcasting, journalism and other related fields," Gozon announced.

THE STORY of GMA Network over the last 50 years is told in countless photos. (Above) Everybody's Uncle Bob, (from top right) Rogelio de la Rosa in a musical aired over dzBB, Tito, Vic and Joey, and "Two for the Road" stars Nestor Torre and Elvira Manahan

FORMER President Corazon Aquino, Lipa City Mayor Vilma Santos, Carolina Jimenez and President Macapagal Arroyo

STATE-OF -THE-ART broadcast newsroom

MULTIAWARDED Jessica Soho covers Edsa II,



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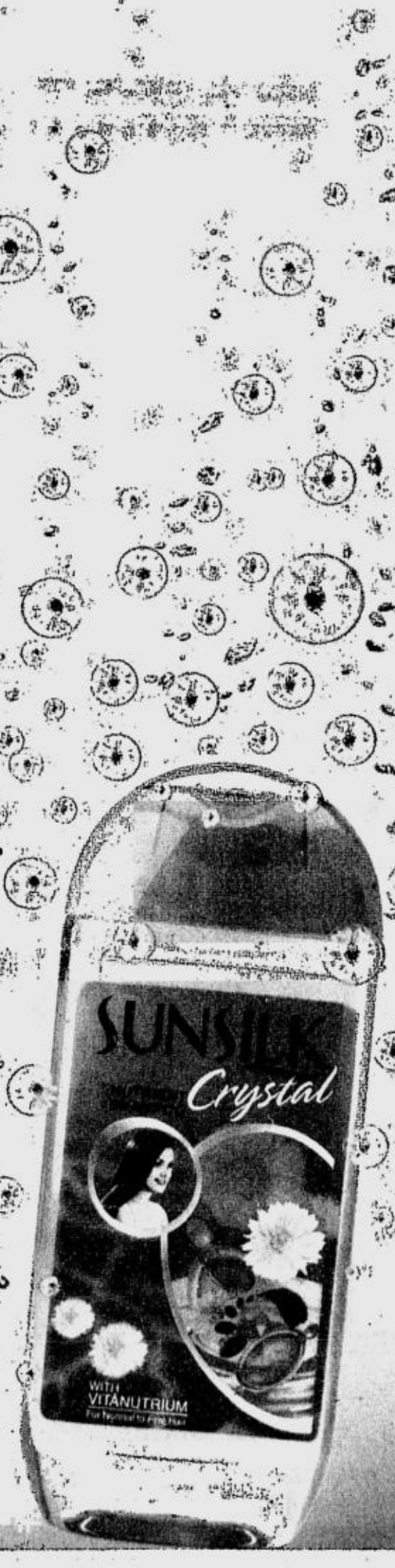

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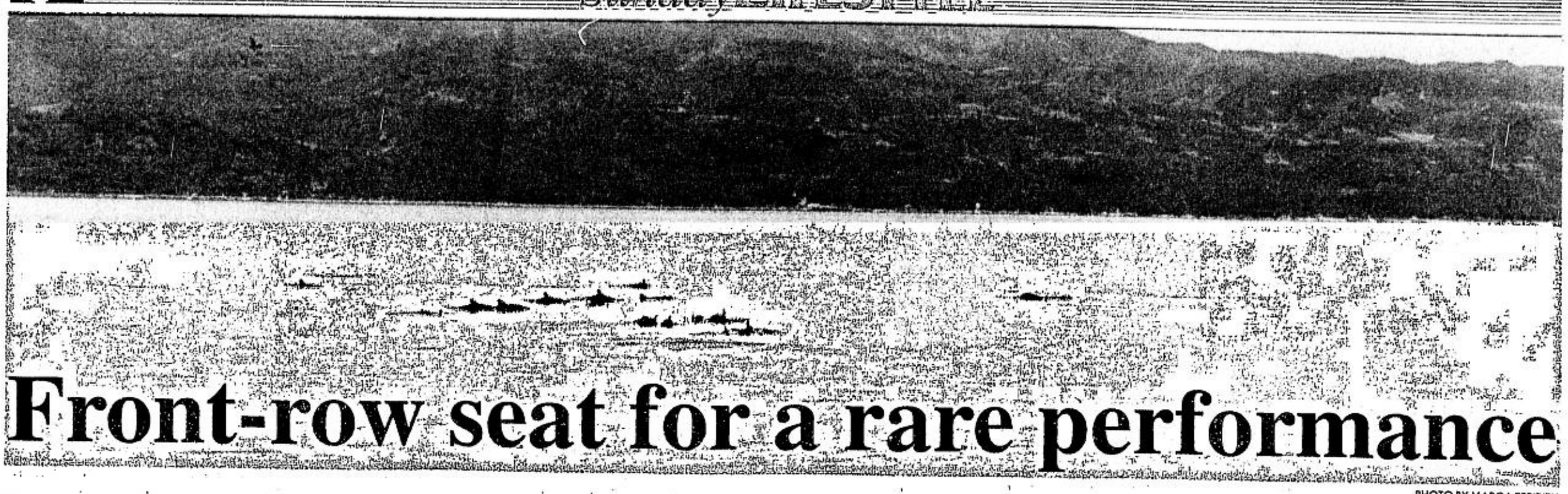


Front-row seat for a rare performance

PHOTO BY MARGA ESPIRITU

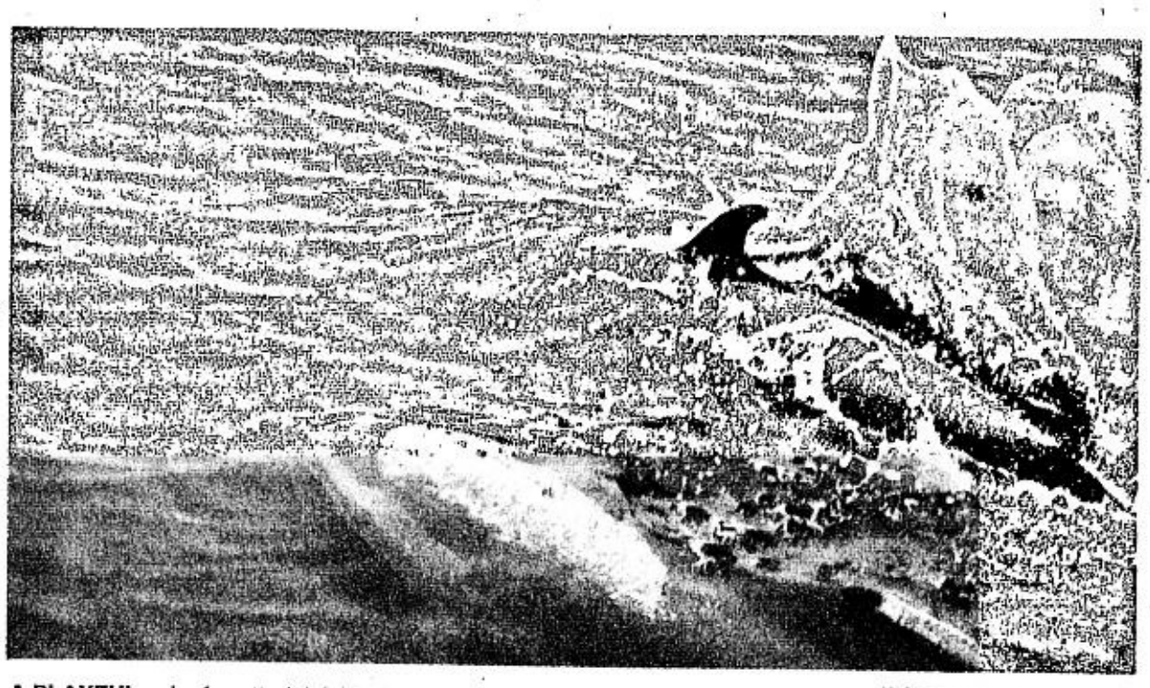
BY MARGA ESPIRITU

WITH SIX members of Supporters of WWF, I joined a trip to Bohol and Negros for training on marine mammal survey techniques. The objective of our trip was to re-survey known marine mammal areas in the Central Visayas and learn cetacean survey techniques.

World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)-Philippines president Lory Tan had arranged to have the 50-ft research catamaran, Lumba-Lumba (which means spinner dolphin in Filipino), waiting for us in Loboc River, in Loay. A shy and unassuming man named Erwin Dolumbal, whom Lory introduced as one of the most seasoned whale naturalists in the country, was to acquaint us with cetacean survey techniques and assist us in our weekend-long survey. Dolumbal is currently taking his masters degree in Marine Biology at the Silliman University.

Although we read Tan's book, "A Field Guide to Whales and Dolphins," we did not expect whale-watching to be a hard task.

After a fruitless watch the first day, Tan wanted to make another pass through the Pamilacan waters the next day. Both he and Dolumbal claimed that last year, they averaged two sightings an hour in these same spots.



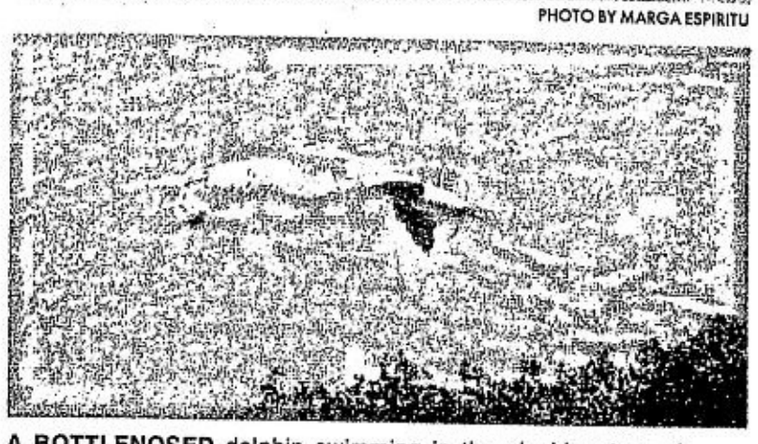
A PLAYFUL pair of spotted dolphins

PHOTOS BY MAVIS FUENTABELLA

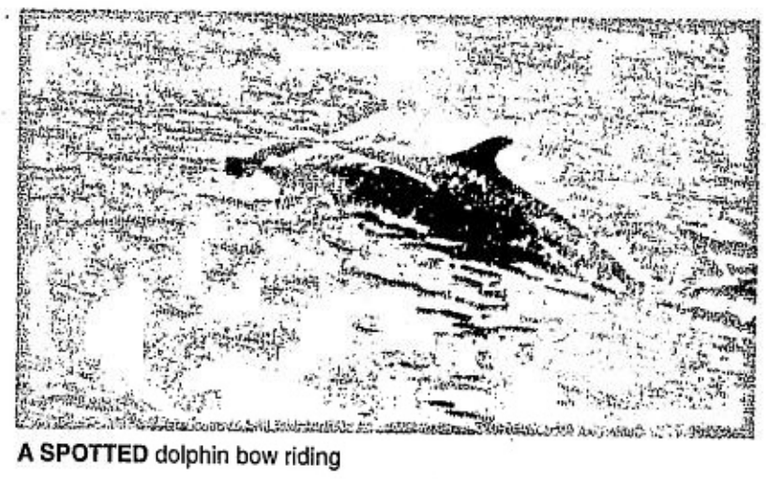
As if to answer our question why the dolphins were gone, we saw a large purse seine boat, a commercial fishing vessel, fishing within 9 km off mainland Bohol. It was clearly violating the Fisheries Code which declares a 15-km zone as municipal waters and off limits to commercial fishing. Tan took videos of the vessel to submit to the proper authorities.

Commercial fishing vessels are rarely apprehended for violation of the Fisheries Code, particularly in this area. Dolumbal suspected one of three things: first, that the dolphins have moved to other places because there was less food in the area due to overfishing; second, that the dolphins might have been caught in those nets (a few years back there have been reports of as many as 80 dolphins getting entangled in just one net); and third, that the dolphins were being hunted down for their meat.

Pamilacan waters were once home to six species of dolphins and seven species of whales, including the legendary sperm whale. But now sightings of these mammals were getting rarer every year. In 1997, Bryde's (pronounced brudus) whales were still seen just off the shores of these small islands. The last time one was spotted from Lumba-Lumba was in 1999. Last year, a live sperm whale was beached on the shore of Enrique Villanueva in Siquijor Island, and was immediately slaughtered by the locals. All that was left for Dolumbal and his colleagues from Silliman were the skull and jawbone of the poor animal.



A BOTTLENOSED dolphin swimming in the placid waters of Tañon Strait



A SPOTTED dolphin bow riding

Finally at 9 a.m., we had our first sighting near Pamilacan. We saw nine Risso's dolphins with their characteristic fight-inflicted white scars, swimming in the opposite direction. They were gone almost as quickly as they appeared. Two hours later, near Balicasag Island, we spotted Fraser and Risso's dolphins swimming together. But like the others, they also quickly disappeared.

The next day, we left Tagbilaran for Tañon Strait, between Negros and Cebu. Near Sumilon Island we saw a pod of spinner dolphins frolicking close enough for us to take pictures. Our boat captain Dino let the catamaran move silently so as not to scare the playful animals. We stayed with them for five minutes then continued our long journey to the Strait.

An hour later, we had our second sighting for the day—a large pod of 75 spotted dolphins on the southern end of the strait. The group put on quite a show. Tan thought about how to approach the animals: "Should we go beside them quietly or go for a bow ride?" Of course, we all opted for the bow ride, a favorite dolphin activity. The animals would position themselves in front of a moving boat or ship and ride its bow wave.

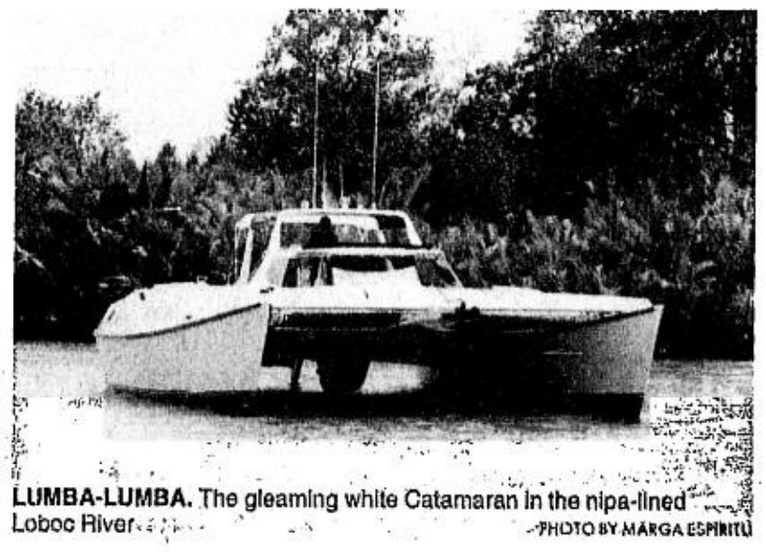
To our dismay, they all disappeared when we came near. As the boat moved silently, we held our breath and looked around. Then suddenly I saw movements in the water right below where I sat almost at the front of the boat. Soon, the watery images got bigger and bigger, zigzagging at unimaginable speeds, finally breaking through the glassy surface. All I could say as I excitedly took pictures was "Oh my God! Oh my God!" The boat was surrounded. Dolumbal estimated over 200 dolphins around us that day. A rule of thumb when dolphin-watching is to multiply the number you see on the surface by four because the animals do not breathe at the same time.

For what seemed like an hour, spotted and bottlenosed dolphins untiringly escorted our boat, proudly displaying their strength, speed, agility and beauty. I never expected them to look so powerful and graceful. They were fast and fluid, reminding me of galloping wild horses, running free and untamed.

Most of us had a strong desire to jump into the water to swim with the dolphins or to ride them like horses. Tan was quick to remind us that the animals were wild and that their reaction to such harassment was unpredictable.

Perhaps there is no other animal that people are drawn to as much as the dolphin. What is so interesting about dolphins is the fact that they seemed to be drawn to us as well. One of the WWF members in our group even swore that one dolphin kept coming back to his side to stare at him. The friendliness and curiosity probably make dolphins so vulnerable. The fact that the animals allowed us to get so close to them showed the great amount of trust they had in us. This was especially true in the Tañon Strait where a *bantay-dagat* program was looking out for these animals and keeping illegal fishing in check. At that moment, I realized that slaughtering dolphins was really a betrayal of trust.

On our way to south Bais Bay, where we were going to drop anchor for the night, Tan announced another sighting, "Dwarf sperm whales, 12 o'clock!" This was to be our first and only sighting of whales on our training trip. The family of rare dwarf sperm whales, no bigger than dolphins, were logging on the surface. We could only stare in amazement at the family—a bull (male whale), a mother and a calf. The evasive animals disappeared soon after.



LUMBA-LUMBA. The gleaming white Catamaran in the nipa-lined Loboc River

PHOTO BY MARGA ESPIRITU

Put principle and foundation into practice

MUSTARD SEED

Joseph Galdon, S.J.

PRINCIPLE and foundation are basic norms for us. Principle is a fundamental truth, a primary or basic thought. It is a source or origin of primordial selection and the understanding, which gives shape and strength to our lives. Foundation is an act of basing our lives on a basic principle. Foundation and principle are based on a clear realization that God is terrific and He created us and loves us.

We ought to have a deeper understanding of God's existence in our world. We need to realize that we were created by God, so we will understand God's love for us and our love for Him and for all our brothers and sisters. "Here I am, Lord!" St. Francis Xavier says: "The world is full of closed doors. I have to open the doors and let the sunshine in. I have to let God into my negative world!" I have to have basic principle and foundation and I have to love and serve God! St. Ignatius Loyola says: "Dearest Lord, teach me to be generous. Teach me to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to struggle for love and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest except the knowledge that I am doing your most holy will which you want, oh Lord!"

St. Ignatius' summary

St. Ignatius Loyola has a very good summary of basic principle and foundation in his Jesuit retreat. Our principle and foundation is an outline for us in our Baptism.

We are deeply loved by God. In our world, however, we are not so basic in our principle and foundation. We have lots of sins—pride, covetousness, lust, anger, gluttony and sloth, which are our seven basic sins in violation of holy principle and foundation. Since we must have principle and foundation, we must always follow the love and will of God. St. Ignatius says that in our principle and foundation we must always choose what is AMDG—Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam—better love and obedience of God.

Be spiritual

Principle and foundation will always make us holy. We ought to have very good spiritual principle and foundation. Let us ask: "What have I done for God in my past life? What am I doing for the teaching of Jesus in my life now? What will I do for God in my life until I die?" We ought to have a good principle and foundation that God loves us and we ought to love all our brothers and sisters, as Jesus taught us in the basic principle and foundation.

Our prayer for principle and foundation is very good: "Day by day, oh, dear Lord, three things I pray—to know you more clearly, love you more dearly and follow you more nearly!" That is a very good prayer and song for us in our principle and foundation. These thoughts are a very good reflection on our basic principle and foundation. "Here I am, Lord! I will go, Lord, where you lead me and I will go Lord where you need me." Alleluia! Amen!

Truth Awards deadline set

SEPT. 30 is the next deadline for proposals to the Fund for Investigative Journalism, or the Truth Awards.

Established in 2000, the Fund invites professional journalists and journalism students to apply for cash awards for the completion of investigative journalism projects they wish to undertake. The awards range in value, but do not exceed P100,000 each. The Fund has so far funded five investigative journalism projects, all of which are ongoing.

The grants are available to all media practitioners who can show evidence of training or experience in the field of investigative journalism, and who have concrete plans for the dissemination of results through film, print or broadcast or both. Students of journalism and related fields can also apply, provided they meet both requirements and their applications will be evaluated as a separate category. Awardees for the next round will be announced in December.

The Fund was established through contributions from anonymous donors interested in supporting investigative reporting projects, and especially eager to assist and encourage the provincial media. It is administered by a board of directors with the following members: John J. Carroll of the Institute of Church and Social Issues of the Ateneo; Amando Doronila of the Philippine Daily Inquirer; Doreen G. Fernandez of the Ateneo Department of Communication; Anna Marie A. Karaos of the Institute of Church and Social Issues; Melinda de Jesus of the Center for Media Freedom and Responsibility; Mary Racelis of CO Multiversity, and Luis V. Teodoro of the U.P. College of Mass Communication.

For inquiries and application forms, write The Fund at P. O. Box 250, UP Post Office, Diliman, Quezon City 1144; or call 426-6134 and 426-5953; fax 426-6070.

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Business ₱1,331	34,500	11,500	9,500	9,500	8,000	4,500	1,600	FREE
Executive ₱1,997	32,000	9,000	7,000	7,000	5,500	2,000	FREE	FREE
CEO ₱2,662	29,500	6,500	4,500	4,500	3,000	FREE	FREE	FREE
Prepaid Line 2 Cost of Prepaid Phone Kit if 1st line is **Personal**	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	9,290	6,190	4,590
Cost of Prepaid Phone Kit if 1st line is **Business**	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	8,990	5,890	4,290
Cost of Prepaid Phone Kit if 1st line is **Executive**	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	8,640	5,540	3,940
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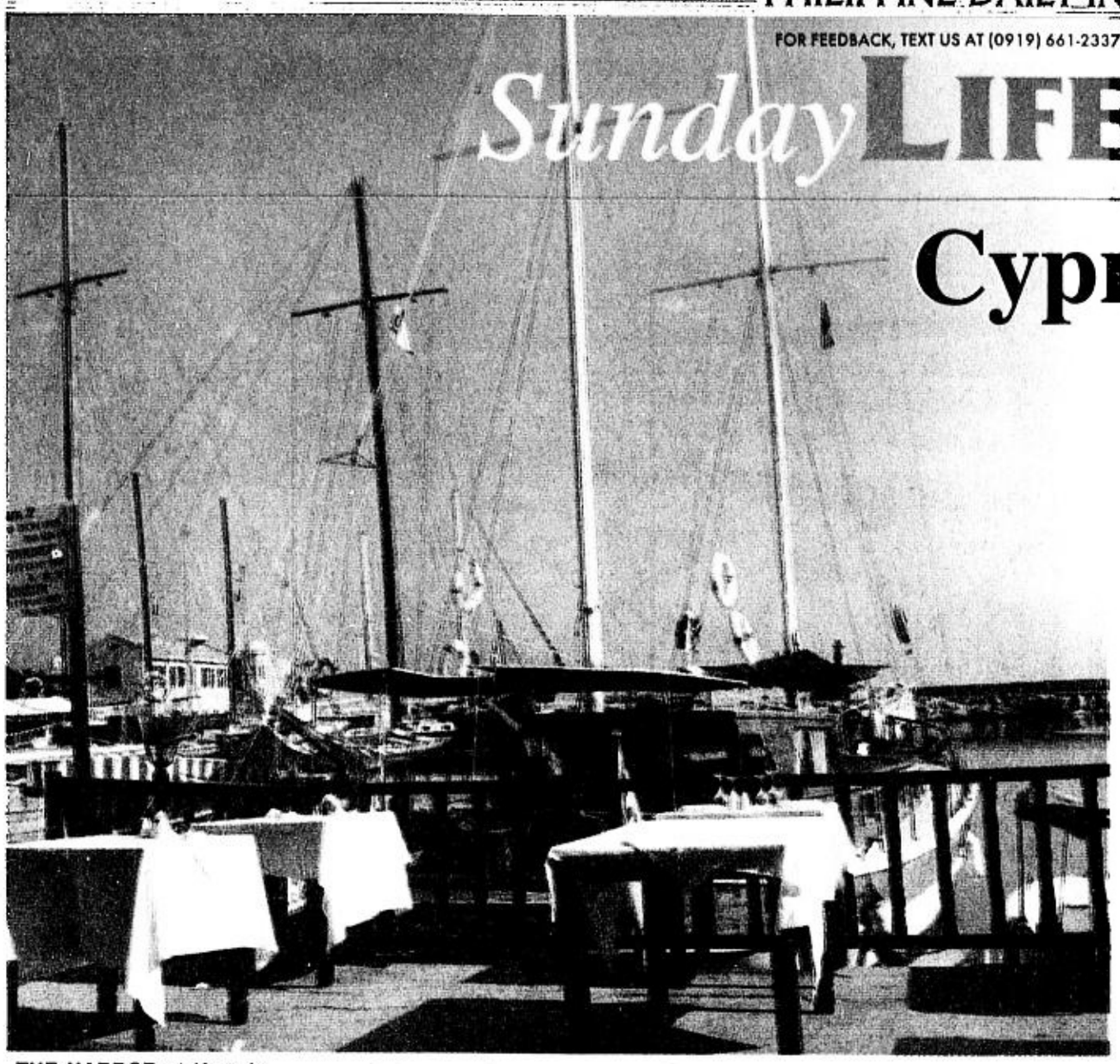

THE HARBOR at Kyrenia

Cyprus beyond the logic

TEXT AND PHOTOS BY CLINTON PALANCA

THE FIRST thing I did upon my arrival in Cyprus was to fall asleep on the Prime Minister. Not literally, thank goodness, although his paunch would have made for a good pillow. At that moment, having stepped off a 26-hour air journey into 40-degree heat, anything would have made a good pillow. As it turned out, the pillow was superfluous.

The press conference was held in one of the official Ministry state rooms with Second Empire furniture; the chairs were arranged in a U-shape, and the chair at the center of the U having more gold-leafing and more luxurious fringes than the others was assumedly where the Prime Minister sat. Photographers, television cameras and transcribers were at the open end of the U, with every lens pointed in my general direction of the throne. For some reason, I found myself seated in the chair beside him, directly in the line of vision of all the lenses. The press conference began presently. What seemed like seconds later, the room was empty, and I was being shaken awake by a Ministry official, who sternly pointed out that my drooling somnambulance would be broadcast live across Turkey that evening on the news. It was not an auspicious beginning.

I was in the TRNC, the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, a country that politically does not exist. It is acknowledged as a nation only by one other country, Turkey, which aside from reaffirming its otherwise Cartesian existence, supports them financially, and during the summer months, kindly sends over fresh water from the mainland by means of balloons (I never got around to asking exactly how, and the mystery has haunted me ever since). They use the Turkish lira as currency, and on many buildings, they fly the Turkish flag as well as their own. Yet it has its own president, a separate government and is applying for entry to the EU as an independent nation.

Fascination

Cyprus has held a fascination for me, especially the northern coast and the mountain town of Bellapais, because this is where my favorite novelist Lawrence Durrell lived, and which he immortalized in his most complex, some say his best, memoir, "Bitter Lemons." Durrell wrote it when the political problems, which were to divide the island, were just beginning, and the air of the autobiographical reminiscence (one hesitates to call it a travel book because he didn't really move about that much) is an odd admixture of idyllic idleness and pastoral sensuality tainted

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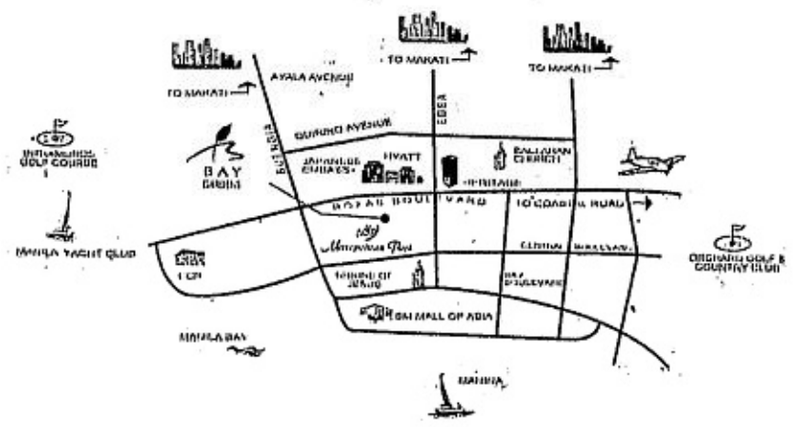
Only at Bay Gardens, where you're at home with nature in the city.

BAY GARDENS



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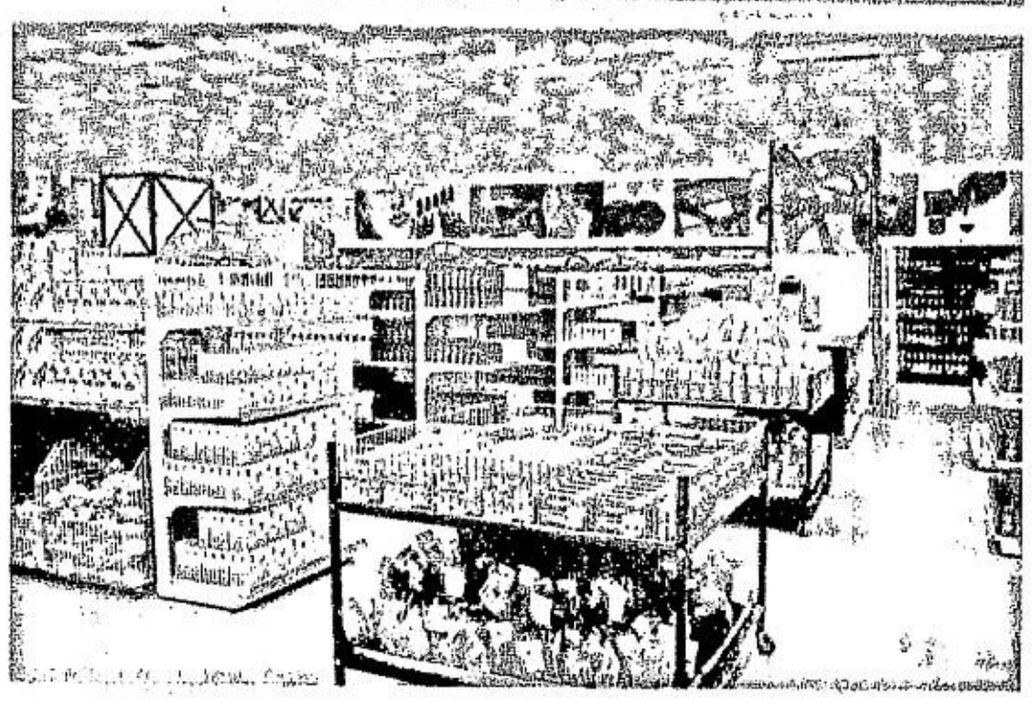
WELL-STOCKED fresh produce area looks very inviting.



HEALTH and beauty department

Hypermart business pioneer opens second outlet

THE PIONEER in the hypermart business, Big R SuperCenter has opened its second branch, Big R SuperCenter Metro East, at the Robinsons Place Metro East Mall along Marcos Highway. The opening last Aug. 31 was graced by no less than Tom Haggai, chair and CEO of the Independent Grocers Alliance, and Vincent Kong, president for Asia.

"Our mission is to be the low-priced provider of the everyday needs of the Filipino customers," explains Lorna Tamayo, marketing services manager, "and we can only do that if we achieve a presence in key areas and make sure that we are accessible to everyone." Known for its competitive pricing, no-membership policy and flexible store hours of 7 a.m.-10 p.m., it is no wonder that wholesalers and individual shoppers find Big R to be the newest shopping haven in town. "We want to make sure that we give the customers what they want and need," Tamayo adds.

The shopping floor spans some 12,000 sq m and carries with it a complete line of merchandise. "Our business is primarily retail; however, our studies revealed that there was a significant demand for wholesale as well, so we recently introduced wholesale areas in both the Novaliches and Metro East stores, which we've aptly called Big Packs. "This gives customers the chance to get even bigger savings," says Tamayo.

As if a big and complete grocery isn't enough, Big R also boasts of the biggest and most complete fresh produce area. "We receive deliveries from direct suppliers as early as 4 a.m. every day, so that customers are ensured of really fresh products at very affordable prices." Still in keeping with their ultimate goal of giving customers whatever they need, Big R SuperCenter also houses a very extensive bakery and ready-to-eat area, where customers can enjoy *pan de sal* straight from the oven, freshly cooked *bibingka*, roasted chicken, a variety of rice topping offerings and believe it or not, even Cebu *lechon*. There are also great values and selections in the general merchandise and apparel departments and the appliance depot.

The hypermart business is fast-growing. It will soon be the end-all and be-all of retailing. As pioneers in this business, Big R has all the resources needed to drive the business to a higher level. "Such is our belief in this concept and in our expertise that we have set a target of at least 10 stores in three years," shares Fernando Yu, director for operations of Big R Stores Inc.

And by the looks of it, this target could be easily met, with the opening of Pampanga branch in November and two other branches down South next year. "We are definitely on a roll. We will stop at nothing in providing Juan de la Cruz with the best and most complete shopping experience," Yu concludes.

Big R SuperCenter Novaliches is at 1199 Quirino Highway corner Maligaya Road, Novaliches, QC, (tel. 938-6805) and Big R SuperCenter Metro East is on Marcos Highway, Brgy. De La Paz, Pasig City (tel. 682-2232).

RON Menhennet, general manager; Fernando Yu, director for operations; Frederick Go, EVP and COO of Big R Stores Inc.; and guest of honor Tom Haggai, chair and CEO of Independent Grocers Alliance, and Vincent Kong, president for Asia during the ribbon-cutting ceremony

FREDERICK Go, Ron Menhennet and Robina Gokongwei put on bright smiles, surrounded by special guests.

MIA Dungo accompanying Tom Haggai as he takes a look at the ready-to-eat counter.

A SWARM of customers welcome the newest shopping haven in town.

Cyprus beyond the logic

(From page D1)

with the darkening political atmosphere. The Greek Cypriots were demanding Enosis, or union with Greece; the Turks who lived on the island objected. The violence that ensued was finally cut short when Turkey sent its armies in and took over the northern half of the island. The rest of the world called it an invasion; the Turkish government called it an intervention. Today, Cyprus is divided into two on a horizontal axis called the Green Line, which is patrolled by the UN; the line runs through the capital, Nicosia, making it the last divided capital in the world.

I knew very little about world politics, and all this began to fall into place only as we were arriving at our destination. The flight took us to Singapore, Dubai, and then Istanbul, where we "entered" Turkey and then took an "international" flight to Ercan, a place which, alarmingly enough, I did not find on my Lonely Planet map of the island. It is always rather unnerving to be flying to a place that did not exist: would there even be a landing strip? Cartographers have mapped the valleys of the moon, but not, apparently, a destination with an international airport. Even more worrisome was the fact that the tiny plane did not have a loo on board, and I hoped that the non-existent city in the non-existent country that we were flying to would have not just existent, but sanitary, toilets at the airport.

Ercan (pronounced "Er-jan") was in fact the name of the airport, a small cluster of buildings in the middle of nowhere. I used the toilet, had a cup of Turkish coffee, and then was whisked off with a group of fellow journalists, who had received similarly cryptic invitations from the Turkish Embassy. We were staying at Kyrenia, which is the main reason anyone not invited by the TRNC government would go to Northern Cyprus in the first place. Kyrenia, or Girne as it is now called in Turkish, is a beautiful little seaside town, with the usual trappings of tourism: but in just the right amount, enough to make the place civilized and hospitable (currency exchange offices, Internet cafés with 14.4kb connections, pharmacies that sold sun-cream and condoms), and a picture-perfect harbor around which were ranged a host of cafés that offered suspiciously similar menus, the kind that make you suspect they share a big common kitchen somewhere. The next morning I rose early, having slept well at the hotel in addition to my naps at the Prime Minister's and in a corner of the National Museum, and walked along the waterfront; the waiters were just setting up the tables and chairs and putting up large parasols. I had a cup of proper tea (their clientele is largely British) and a scoop of heavenly homemade pistachio ice cream. Then I went to change some money, and had my first encounter with Turkish money.

Mighty lira

The currency unit of Turkey is the lira, which has devalued slowly over the years, and, due to recent economic mismanagement, is devaluing even further (inflation reached 50 percent at one point). This means that $1 converts to 1,350,000 lira: that's 1.3 million. The lira, for obvious reasons, is not divided into further fractional units. This means that a cup of coffee costs about 1 million lira, a decent lunch about 12 million lira, and a public restroom 250,000 lira (I have to admit the toilet was very clean). Just to confuse you further, all the bills have Kemal Ataturk's face on them, and are about the same size and of the same color. The largest denomination is 10 million lira, which makes paying for large sums rather cumbersome: at one point, my backpack was so stuffed with hug[illegible] bundles of bills I [illegible] like a bank robber. Taxi [illegible] at bills and counting zeroes that [illegible] ve into your wallet and extract the rig[illegible] lurks are not, by nature, a polite race, but [illegible]ly honest and friendly.

Northern Cyprus has a population of 200,000, and when you enter the back alleys of Nicosia, it is as though time has stood still for them. It's different from Cuba, where there is movement, but just not in synch with the rest of the world; it's different too from India, where, outside Bombay, the culture is frozen in Victorian England. In Cyprus the time warp is even more primeval: breakfast consisted of fresh cheese, loaves warm from the oven, olives and honey. But the cheese was wonderful, rich and crumbly; the honey was fragrant; the olives were real black olives (the ones we get here are usually green olives dyed black), cracked open and cured with ashes, slathered with olive oil. In the market I bought olive oil from the farmer who had pressed it himself; it was bottled in a plastic Pepsi canister sealed with tape; the color was a cloudy lime green rather than clear gold, and the scent was ambrosial.

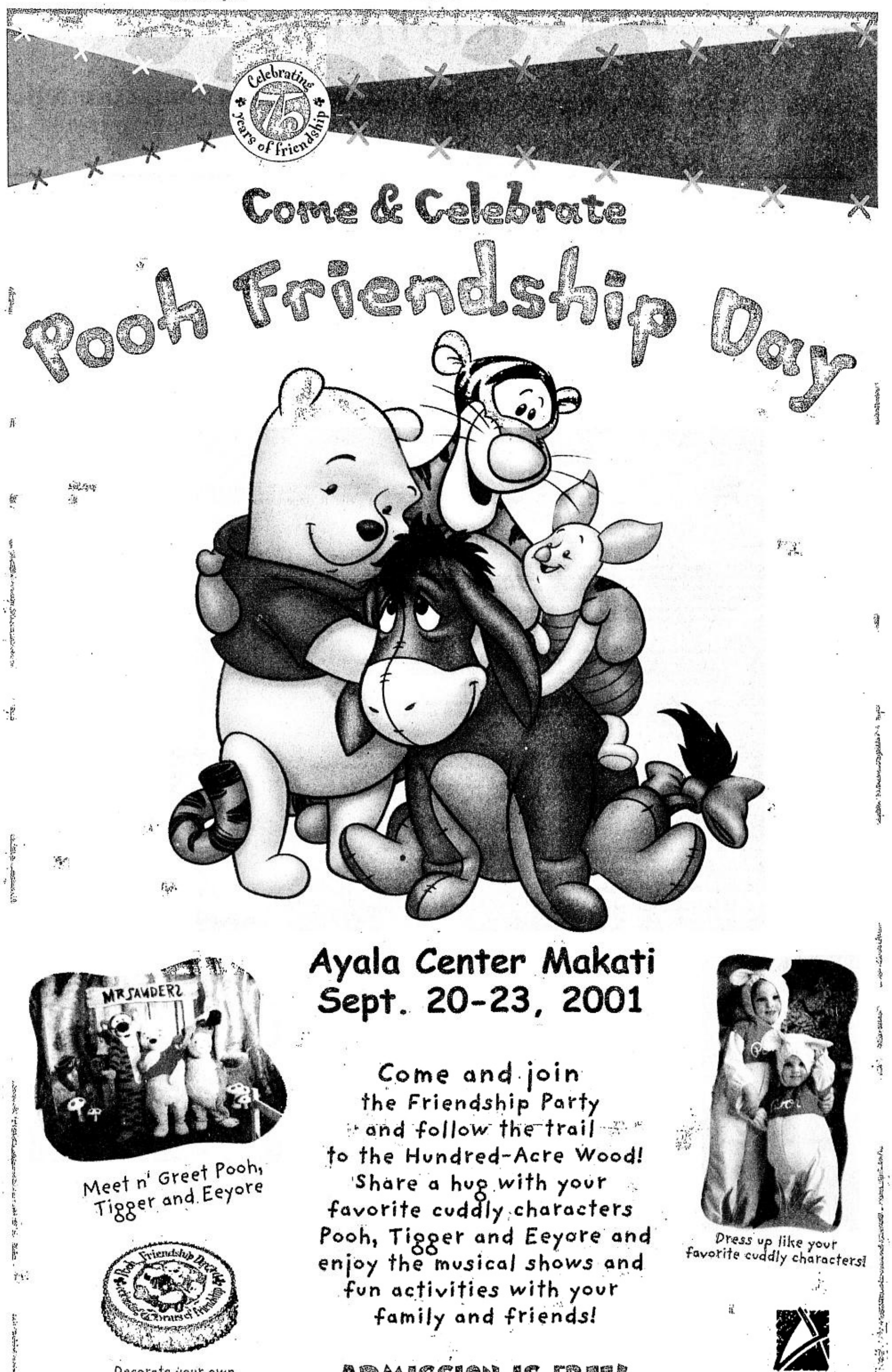
Outside the cities the countryside was dry, almost desert-like: scrubs and bare rock, with the occasional grove of cypress, olive, or carob trees. It's such a primeval landscape that one is jolted and horrified when suddenly a Burger King attached to a supermarket looms up out of nowhere, with garish red plastic signage and arrows directing one to a drive-through window. Along the coastal highway to Salamis, one sees half-built structures, which seem to have been chosen with the randomness of someone sticking a pencil blindfolded into a map. The finished ones are ugly concrete houses, the only thing Mediterranean about them being the fact that they do, indeed, face the Mediterranean. The others are inexplicable: two levels of bare concrete, a stairway, silhouetted against the deep blue of the sky or the lighter cloudless blue of the sky like some sort of avant-garde installation. As we passed one of them, I asked our Ministry official where the nearest market, or hospital, or school was; she pointed in three different directions and shruggingly said five, 10, perhaps 20 kilometers. Haven't these people ever played SimCity? Why not build towns, have neighbors, public transportation. It was not the last time I would attempt to wrestle with Turkish logic.

Tedious

Sightseeing in a herd is always tedious, especially because the journalists in the group seemed to hold a macabre fascination with massacre sites, or the ap-

CYPRUS/ p.D6

"NO Man's Land" between North and South Nicosia



"SO when your husband and children were massacred, how did you feel?" War Widows, Cyprus.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. DESCRIPTION
FEEL THE GLOW OF CHRISTMAS is an annual nationwide caroling competition among different schools in the elementary level held under the auspices of Unilever Phils., Inc. (Vaseline Amino Collagen Shampoo) in cooperation with GMA Network, Inc. and RGMA Network, Inc.

2. OBJECTIVES
To showcase the talents of choral groups and encourage them to further enhance their musical artistry.

3. REGIONAL GROUPING

Group 1	National Capital Region	NCR
Group 2	Northern & Central Luzon	Regions I, II, III & CAR
Group 3	Southern Luzon	Regions IV & V
Group 4	Visayas	Regions VI, VII & VIII
Group 5	Mindanao	Regions IX, X, XI, XII, Caraga & ARMM

4. TIMETABLE

Launching	Sunday, September 2
Deadline for Submission of Entries	Friday, October 19
Qualifying Stage	October 27 – November 10
Regional Finals	
National Capital Region	Saturday, December 1
Northern & Central Luzon	Wednesday, December 5
Southern Luzon	Wednesday, November 28
Visayas	Sunday, November 25
Mindanao	Saturday, November 17
Grand National Finals	Sunday, December 16

5. PRIZES

5.1 Qualifying Stage

P20,000.00 each	winners per qualifying area
P10,000.00 each	Special Award for Best Parol; two (2) winners per qualifying area

5.2 Regional Finals

50,000.00	One (1) winner per regional grouping

5.3 Grand National Finals

P 150,000.00	Grand Prize Winner
P 100,000.00	2nd Prize
P 75,000.00	3rd Prize
P 50,000.00	4th Prize
P 25,000.00	5th Prize

6. ELIGIBILITY
6.1 Only one (1) Choral Group per school shall be allowed to join.
6.2 Each member of the Choral Group must be a bonafide student of the participating school.
6.3 Each member of the Choral Group must not have reached the age of fourteen (14) on the day of the Grand National Finals, December 16, 2001.
6.4 A Choral Group must consist of exactly twenty (20) members from Grades I to VII.
6.5 A Choral Group may have a conductor/choirmaster and/or accompanist.

7. REQUIREMENTS
7.1 Submission of Entries
7.1.1 Each Choral Group must submit a duly accomplished Entry Form.
7.1.2 Each Choral Group must submit a Certification from the School Principal or Officer-in-Charge endorsing the group as the official representative. The Certification must also include the names, birth dates, ages and grade levels of the members of the Choral Group.
7.2 Qualifying Stage
7.2.1 Each Choral Group must present their own version of a Vaseline Parol created from materials of their preference and a minimum of 100 empty sachets and 10 empty bottles of the New Vaseline Amino Collagen Shampoo. The Parol must have a minimum height of five (5) feet.
7.2.2 The contest piece may be a Christmas carol in English, Tagalog, any Philippine dialect or a combination thereof, maximum time limit of which is three minutes (3:00).
7.2.3 Each Choral Group may use either an acoustic piano or acoustic guitar. Non-pitched percussion and indigenous instruments may also be used provided that they are played by the members of the Choral Group.
7.3 Regional Finals and Grand National Finals
7.3.1 In addition to the contest piece stated in 7.2.2, each Choral Group must render their version of "Feel the Glow of Christmas" jingle, maximum time limit of whichis one minute and thirty seconds (1:30). This provision only applies to the Regional Finals.
7.3.2 Each Choral Group may use either an acoustic piano or acoustic guitar. Non-pitched percussion and indigenous instruments may also be used provided that they are played by the members of the Choral Group.

8. SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES
8.1 Each Choral Group must represent a Regional Grouping/Qualifying Area based on the location of their school.
8.2 Each Choral Group must submit a duly accomptished Entry Form together with the School Certification at any of the following Coordinating Centers based on the Regional Grouping/Qualifying Area they represent:

Regional Grouping	Qualifying Area	Coordinating Center	Telephone Nos.
NCR	Quezon City, Makati, Manila, Parañaque & Caloocan	DWLS-FM Campus Radio DZBB-AM Super Radyo 3/F Norbertina Bldg. EDSA cor. East Ave.,Quezon City	(02) 925-1731/23 925-1838 925-1716
Northern & Central Luzon	Baguio	Campus Radio 2/F Baguio Midland Courier Bldg. #16 Kisad Road, Baguio City	(074) 444-3312 to 14 304-4915
	Dagupan	Campus Radio / Super Radyo 4/F de Vera Bldg. Arellano Ave.,Dagupan City, Pangasinan	(075) 515-7467 523-4053
	Laoag	Campus Radio 3/F Pacific Bldg., Abadilla St., Laoag City	(077) 770-3342/43
	Pampanga	DWLS-FM Campus Radio DZBB-AM Super Radyo 3/F Norbertina Bldg. EDSA cor. East Ave., Quezon City	(02) 925-1731/23 925-1838 925-1716
	Tuguegarao	Campus Radio 4/F Villablanca Hotel, Pattaui St. cor. Pallua Rd. Ugac Norte, Tuguegarao, Cagayan	(078) 846-2062 846-3115
Southern Luzon	Batangas	Campus Radio 3/F Ancon Bldg., Merchan St., Lucena City	(042) 373-6235
	Legaspi	Campus Radio 3/F Jomil Bldg., Georgetown Park Cabangan, Legaspi City	(052) 214-3789/87
	Lucena	Campus Radio 3/F Ancon Bldg., Merchan St. Lucena City	(042) 373-6235
	Naga	Campus Radio 3/F DMG Bldg., Peñafrancia St. Naga City, Camarines Sur	(054) 472-8724
	Puerto Princesa	Campus Radio/Super Radyo Solid Rd., San Manuel Puerto Princesa City, Palawan	(048) 434-2906
Visayas	Bacolod	Campus Radio/Super Radyo 3/F Planters Products Bldg. Rizal cor. Lacson Sts. Bacolod City	(034) 434-2083
	Cebu	Campus Radio/Super Radyo GMA Skyview Complex Nivel Hills, Lahug, Cebu City	(032) 232-3378
	Iloilo	Campus Radio/Super Radyo Phase V, Alta Tiera Village Jaro, Iloilo City	(033) 329-0259 329-2110
	Kalibo	Campus Radio Torres-Olivia Bldg. Roxas Ave. Ext., Kalibo, Aklan	(036) 268-3875/76
	Tacloban	Campus Radio 3/F Dynasty Square Bldg. P. Zamora St.,Tacloban City, Leyte	(053) 321-6065
Mindanao	Butuan	Campus Radio 2/F Bank of Cabadbaran Bldg. Butuan City, Agusan del Norte	(085) 225-6075 342-3098
	Cagayan de Oro	Campus Radio 2/F Marel Realty Bldg. Pabayo cor. Hayes St. Cagayan de Oro City, Misamis Oriental	(082) 729-436 729-576
	Davao	Campus Radio/Super Radyo Penthouse, Amesco Bldg. Damaso Suazo St., Uyanguren Davao City	(082) 222-1343 224-0681
	General Santos	Campus Radio/Super Radyo 3/F PBC Bldg., Cagampang St. Gen. Santos City, South Cotabato	(083) 301-5503 553-4180
	Zamboanga	Campus Radio/Super Radyo 6/F Doña Vicente Bldg., Gov. Lim Ave. Zamboanga City, Zamboanga del Sur	(062) 991-2069 991-2602

8.3 There shall be a maximum of fifty (50) choral groups in each qualifying area.

9. SELECTION PROCESS
9.1 There shall be three (3) stages in the selection process, namely: Qualifying Stage, Regional Finals and Grand National Finals.
9.2 Qualifying Stage
9.2.1 The Qualifying Stage shall be held in five (5) Qualifying Areas per Regional Grouping for a total of twenty-five(25) Qualifying Areas.
9.2.2 The Qualifying Stage shall determine the two (2) Choral Groups from each Qualifying Area that will advance to the Regional Finals.
9.2.3 The Qualifying Stage shall also determine the two (2) winners of the Special Award for Best Parol from each Qualifying Area.
9.3 Regional Finals
9.3.1 The Regional Finals shall be held in Quezon City, Baguio, Lucena, Cebu and Davao for Regional Groupings 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, respectively.
9.3.2 The Regional Finals shall determine the Choral Group from each Regional Grouping that will advance to the Grand National Finals.
9.4 Grand National Finals
9.4.1 There shall be five (5) Choral Groups that will compete in the Grand National Finals.

10. CRITERIA FOR JUDGING

Musicality	Tone, Blend, Phrase	30%
Musicianship	Pitch, Balance, Accuracy of Rhythm, Accuracy of Diction	30%
Presentation	Discipline, Choreography, Costume, Parol*	30%
Audience Impact	Rapport	10%

*Refers to the Originality, Creativity and Craftsmanship of the Vaseline Parol

11. BOARD OF JUDGES
11.1 The Organizing Committee shall have the exclusive authority to appoint the members of the Board of Judges.
11.2 The decision of the Board of Judges shall be final and binding on all Choral Groups and parties concerned.

12. OTHER MATTERS
12.1 The Qualifying Stage, Regional Finals and Grand National Finals shall be at a specific date, time and place designated by the Organizing Committee. Should there be any changes, the Choral Groups shall be notified accordingly. Failure to appear in the set schedule may result to the disqualification of the said Choral Group.
12.2 Each Choral Group shall provide their costumes, props, instruments and other materials necessary for their performance.
12.3 Transportation, meals, accommodations and other related costs for the Qualifying Stage shall be at the expense of the Choral Group. For the Regional Finals and Grand National Finals, the Organizing Committee shall provide an allowance for transportation, meals and accommodations. Other costs incurred shall be at the expense of the Choral Group.
12.4 Each Choral Group shall be required to attend and participate in all promotional, publicity, production, rehearsals, Regional Finals, Grand National Finals and other related activities. It is understood that the presence of the Choral Group in relation to the above, on or off stage, shall be without remuneration.
12.5 Each Choral Group shall grant Unilever Phils., Inc., GMA Network, Inc. and RGMA Network, Inc. and/ or its assignees the right to use any and all still photographs, radio broadcast and video footage taken during any activity in relation to Feel the Glow of Christmas for any television, cable TV, radio or print promotional or merchandising effort or as program material for the annual event including any similar or related activity staged by Unilever Phils., Inc., GMA Network, Inc. and RGMA Network, Inc. and/or its assignees. Each Choral Group shall further authorize Unilever Phils., Inc., GMA Network, Inc. and RGMA Network, Inc. and/or its assignees to use their voices, recordings, autographs, likeness, caricatures and names for any and all publicity, promotions, advertising and exhibition purposes of Feel the Glow of Christmas. Each Choral Group shall further agree to waive any and all charges in relation to the mechanical rights, public performance and television including cable TV rights of the said video footage.
12.6 Unilever Phils., Inc., GMA Network, Inc. and RGMA Network, Inc. and all its employees and agents shall be held free and harmless from any liability, suit, action or any proceeding for any damage or injury any participant may incur for reasons solely attributable to them while participating in any activity relating to Feel the Glow of Christmas.
12.7 The Organizing Committee reserves the option to substitute any disqualified Choral Group.
12.8 Each Choral Group shall agree to return any and all amounts, trophies, plaques and other consideration received in connection with Feel the Glow of Christmas if they withdraw from the Regional and Grand National Finals, or if disqualified, after notice, by reason of any violation of the Rules and Regulations of Feel the Glow of Christmas; and further agree not to withdraw, for any reason, from the Regional and Grand National Finals without the written approval of the Organizing Committee.
12.9 Any doubt or ambiguity as to the meaning or interpretation of any provision of these rules, including any concern or issue involving any aspect of the competition, shall be exclusively resolved by the Organizing Committee and its decision shall be final and binding on all Choral Groups and parties concerned.

Let your children's voices be heard!

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES IS ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19

Vaseline Amino Collagen Shampoo
GMA
RGMA

Volunteers clean up Balayan Bay

THE MONTH of September highlights an environmental endeavor as 800-1,000 divers, underwater photographers and resource users joined volunteers for this year's event. The Friends of Balayan Bay (FOBB)and Nestea Iced Tea presented "The International Coastal Clean-up 2001—Balayan Bay, Philippines." FOBB is an association of resorts located in the municipalities of Mabini, Bauan and Tingloy in Batangas. The group teamed up to further marine life conservation and strengthen public awareness in maintaining the cleanliness of the bay as its top objective.

Each year, the Center for Marine Conservation conducts an event called The International Coastal Clean-Up wherein participating countries all over the world organize beach and underwater clean-ups to create awareness about the effects of bad waste management on our oceans.

In the past years, more than 50,000 volunteers all over the Philippines have participated in this annual event, collecting more than 500,600 kg of garbage to assist scientists and policymakers in waste management and the maintenance of our environment.

FOBB and Nestea Iced Tea spearheaded the clean-up together with the International Marinelife Alliance and WG&A Philippines. The clean-up was in line with Nestea Iced Tea's "Love the Beach" program, while FOBB acted as the umbrella organization for all clean-up events in the Balayan Bay area. Garbage collected on specific were sorted, and the data tabulated and submitted to the Center for Marine Conservation (USA) for proper analysis. To register as a volunteer, call 926-0723 or register online at www.fobb.ziby.net.

Do you wanna dance?

A DANCE competition will be held at Robinsons Place Imus, with the grand finals scheduled for Oct. 28 at the mall's fountain area.

The winning dance group will receive P10,000 in cash plus a certificate of excellence. Second and third prize winners will receive P8,000 and P6,000, respectively, plus certificates of excellence. Consolation prizes amounting to P4,000 and certificates of excellence will be given to the rest of the finalists.

Interested parties can get entry forms at the information counter of Robinsons Place Imus. A barangay certificate should be submitted together with the accomplished form.

Contestants must form groups of 3-5 members and must be 7-12 years old and residents of Cavite. Screenings will be held at the second level of the mall at 5-6 p.m., Sept. 17, 19, 21, 24, 26, 28, Oct. 1, 3, 5. Contestants should bring their own dance music in cassette.

Seven groups will compete in each weekly elimination round, at 5-6 p.m., Sept. 23, Oct. 7, 14 and 21.

Winners in the weekly elimination round will receive P3,000 cash and certificates of recognition. All contestants will receive certificates of participation.

Call Allan Quizon Cruz at 633-9396/7641 to -90 local 175 or 176.

Great bargains at Makati's food court

ENJOY value-for-money shopping at Foodpark at the Enterprise on Sept. 18, 19, 25 and 26 and get great bargains on world-class merchandise.

The bazaar, which opens at 10 a.m. and closes at 7 p.m. on the four dates, will complement the unique dining experience at Foodpark—Makati's first theme food court.

Fashioned after New York's famed Central Park, Foodpark at the Enterprise is Makati's favorite after-hours haunt with park, benches, street lamps and lush foliage. It also has a variety of food stalls offering a wide array of Filipino and international cuisine.

Among the items available at the bazaar are home accessories; crafts and gifts; Christmas decor; ceramics and candles; leather bags, wallets and shoes; RTW; gift and novelty items; jewelry; handmade paper crafts; toys and books; Tupperware and CDs and VCDs.

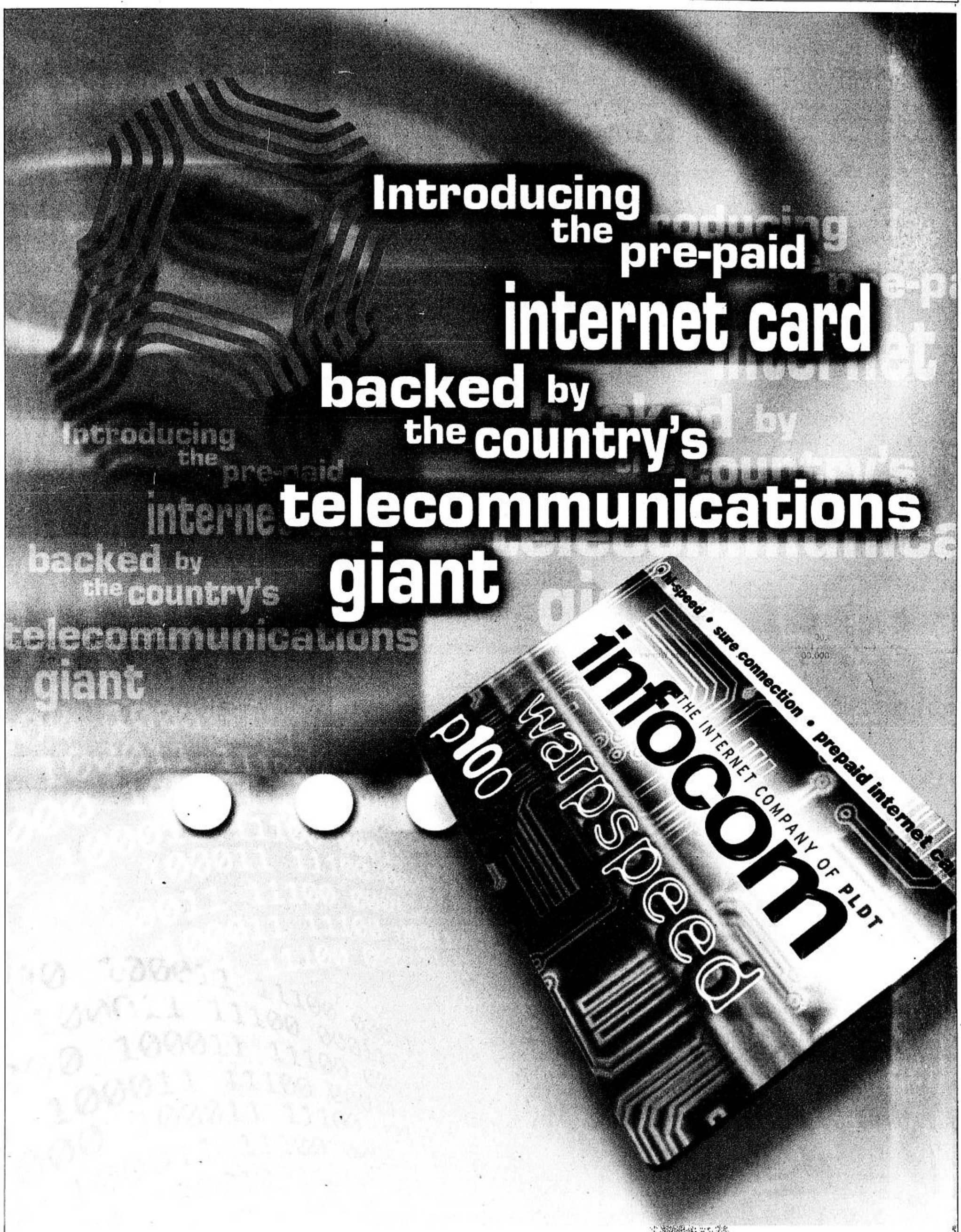
Foodpark at the Enterprise is located at the fourth level of The Enterprise Center, Ayala Avenue corner Paseo de Roxas, Makati City. Call 752-5678.

UST Commerce holds alumni homecoming

THE UNIVERSITY of Santo Tomas College of Commerce will hold a grand alumni homecoming on Sept. 21 at the New World Renaissance Hotel in Makati City to be led by host and organizer Batch of 1976, this year's silver jubilarians.

As a culminating activity of the college's 68th foundation celebrations, the homecoming will draw a big number of alumni and guests from here and abroad. This year's alumni bash whose theme, "Swinging '76: Reliving a Magical Past!" will transport them back to the '70s, featuring songs, dances and audiovisual presentations interspersed in a magical show.

Tickets are available at P700 each. E-mail the organizing committee at USTcommercealumni @yahoogroups.com. Call Tenny Menorca, 886-3084; Princess Imperial, 894-5429; Irene Arroyo, 687-0076; Helen Ku, 941-9590 or Prof. Fe Bruselas, UST Commerce Alumni Foundation adviser, telex 781-6629, 731-3101 local 8374.



Cyprus beyond the logic

Why do Turkish Cypriots want a republic of their own? The answer lies in apprehending the spirit of the land and its people

(From page D3)

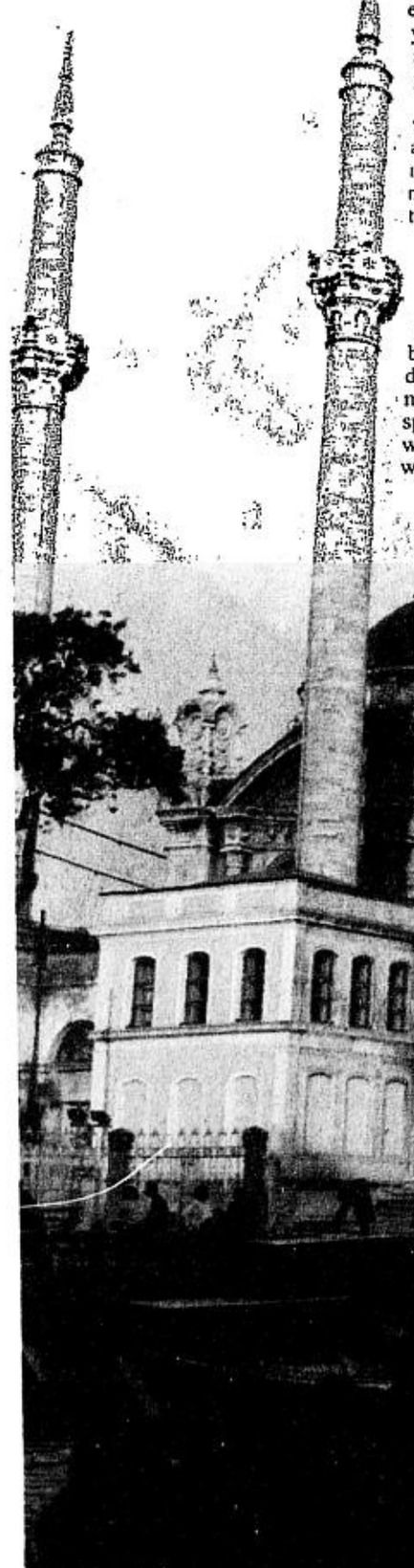
pealingly named Museum of Barbarism (half-price for children). They even requested to interview one of the survivors of such a massacre. In the years between the departure of the British (the last official colonizers of the island; it was a strategic listening post during World War II) and the arrival of the Turks in 1974, the internal violence often reached fever pitch, with Greek hordes marching up to Turkish houses and killing everyone, women and children included. (I am sure there was retaliatory violence, and the Greeks probably have similar stories to tell.) Thus one morning we drove up a mountain to the "Village of Widows," a cluster of houses built by the government for exactly what its name suggests. An interview had been scheduled with a woman who had seen her husband and three children murdered before her eyes. We shuffled into her house with the solemn air of guests at a wake. Presently, the Japanese journalist who had requested the interview opened a pad with a highly professional air; I was preoccupied with playing Snake on my cell phone and replying to text messages I was receiving about the parties I was missing in Manila. "Madam," the journalist began, leaning forward with his pen poised, "when you saw your husband and children killed in front of you, tell me: how did you feel?"

I nearly fell out of my chair. The other journalists, strangely enough, did not seem to think this an inappropriate, if not downright ridiculous question, and stared raptly at her while the Ministry official translated the question; I bolted from the room as fast as I could. The mid-day sun was harsh on the stone and scrub; even to the naked eye, it looked like an overexposed image, the green distilled to a dull lime by the dust, the detail on the landscape washed out by the glare.

Press conferences were followed by luncheon receptions, the afternoon devoted to yet more massacre sites, and then an evening cocktail at the Turkish ambassador's villa. It seemed like every Northern Cypriot who wasn't a farmer or a waiter at a Kyrenia café was there, dressed in tuxedo and evening dress. I guzzled champagne and stuffed myself with shawarma sandwiches, lurking in a corner: I have no idea what to do with myself at cocktail parties in Manila, much less at a Cypriot bureaucratic social event. By the end of the evening I was so drunk and bored that I amused myself by walking up to complete strangers and shaking their hands warmly, thanking them for coming and asking if they were having a lovely evening.

On strike

The next day, I pondered the possible consequences, and decided to go officially on strike from the arranged schedule, which I was certain included a few more massacre sites and meetings with the Undersecretary for the Authentication of Citrus Seedlings, or something like that. I unplugged the bedside phone and set my alarm for the civilized hour of 10 a.m. The hotel that they had put us in was not in Kyrenia itself, but a few kilometers away down the coast; a site chosen, again, with little reference to logic. It was monstrously ugly, a clumsy and clueless attempt to be upmarket and posh, and consequently garish and tawdry, with an airconditioner that feebly circulated tepid air and erratic hot water which would lull you into a false security and then suddenly scald you with an energetic blast of steam.



Moreover, I had suddenly developed a rash that spread systematically in bumps over my body, making my torso look like a relief map of fairly mountainous terrain, throbbing an angry red and streaked with nail marks where I had scratched in my sleep. The hotel limousine delivered me in leather-and-teak elegance to a public hospital, where I sat amidst squalling babies and car-crash victims. The doctor and I conversed in pantomime, but mostly my blotched body spoke for itself. He hurled me onto a wooden plank and, without any warning, stuck a syringe into my hindquarters. Within minutes the rash started to clear, and I arrived in state back at the hotel, mentally thanking the Turkish taxpayers for their free and efficient, if somewhat brusque, health services.

The morning having been spent in decidedly untouristic fashion, I decided to spend the rest of the day travelling the way I liked best: roaming aimlessly and allowing the place to come to you, rather than searching for it in monuments or ruins or churches. I strolled the back alleys of Nicosia, watching coppersmiths beat out pots and kettles and cauldrons. After lunch, I made my pilgrimage to Bellapais, a truly beautiful town set in the mountains clustered around the ruins of a medieval abbey, found Durrell's house (inhabited), and watched the sun set over the coast. Behind me was the Tree of Idleness under which that cranky, inimitable genius had written his novels; I was looking out across a landscape which, for a little bit of dry rocky ground, was a fairly recurrent footnote in history. It had been conquered by Alexander the Great, ceded to Egypt (Anthony had given the island to Cleopatra as a present; I myself usually go as far as a box of Valrhona chocolate when I'm going for a girl); it was subsequently occupied by Richard the Lionheart, sold to the Knights of Templar, ceded to Venice (the play Othello is set in "a seaport in Cyprus," which most people like to believe is Salamis or Famagusta), taken by the Ottomans, then handed over, once more, to the British, who seized full control of the island in 1914, when the latter was at war with Turkey. It was difficult to believe that this barren landscape of stones and withered trees had witnessed so much history, much of it filled with violence and brutality. There was only the amber of the setting sun against the cliffsides and the pale stone of the abbey, the soft, lazy breeze of the evening wind, and the piped-in music which was, with the usual Turkish lack of logic that I was beginning to get used to, Pavarotti singing Christmas carols.

Stuffed

I had dinner at a famous (by the standards of nonexistent countries) kebab house in Kyrenia called Niazi's. The meal began with mezes, small plates of olives, hummus, cheese, salad, and whatnot; it is not unknown for Turks to eat an entire meal of mezes with bread, the way people in Hongkong make a lunch out of dimsum. I made the usual tourist's mistake of eating too much of the mezes; then the kebabs began to arrive. By some inscrutable system, the central kebab cook is able to keep track of who is eating which kebab, as there is a sequence to the kebabs. Just as you're finishing one, a runner will dash from the central kebab grill (an infernal pit smack in the middle of the restaurant) and thrust another skewer at you, like an infantryman charging with a sword. While each one was presented in this somewhat combative manner, there was no explanation of what sort of kebab it was ("It's the long, thin one," the waiter told me). But all six skewers were delicious. I'm sure that my meal, had it been piled in front of me, would have made a daunting heap, but since it arrived in installments, I didn't realize how much I was eating, and even went for the dessert buffet, a smorgasbord of rich, sweet pastries, shiny black cherries, fresh figs, nectarines, and soft-serve ice-cream. By the time I staggered out of the restaurant, I realized that I had overeaten in a way that I hadn't done since I was a kid: I literally had trouble breathing, because my stomach was pushing against my lungs.

After dinner I walked along the waterfront, alive with strolling tourists and vendors selling the usual things: trinkets and souvenirs, fake watches, semi-permanent tattoos, cotton candy, dusty bestsellers traded in by past visitors. Someone had erected a stage, a band was playing '80s pop songs in Turkish, and both local and foreign couples were strolling hand-in-hand, or perched along the sea-wall looking out at the lights of the yachts and ships anchored in the harbor.

It was quite picturesque, and this, more than the massacre sites, gave me an idea of why the Turks who had made Cyprus their home for thousands of years were fighting to keep their homeland, rather than simply leaving the island to the Greeks.

The problem

The situation, known as "The Cyprus Problem," was reiterated time and again at every briefing and press conference we attended, including one with the president, Rauf Denktas (pronounced "Denk-tesh"), who was, fortunately, too far away for me to cuddle up to for a nap. The Greek Cypriots, who had the fifth-highest per capita income in the world, were spending $1 million a day on armaments: no one could understand why: it was an elephant gun for a mosquito if they were trying to take over the TRNC, but hopeless against the large and well-armed military of Turkey. As for solutions, the expert political analysts (otherwise known as my journalist colleagues in the bar after dinner) wracked their brains to come up with solutions. A bit of rocky ground without its own water was something we had heard of before: Hongkong, Singapore, Gibraltar, and Monaco were comparable idiosyncratic little sovereignties that made a tidy profit just from their novel appeal to philatelists. Should the TRNC try and become a tax haven, a gambling paradise, a trading hub? The logical and seemingly inevitable solution was integration with Turkey, but that would be like giving up. Not to mention that Turkish Cypriots have their own culture: they drink coffee rather than tea, for instance, and speak their own dialect of Turkish. Another question we pondered was how important, really, the "Cyprus Question" was on the world stage. On the weekend before Christmas, more than 100,000 people pass through one of Manila's malls in a single day; Indonesian journalist agreed that a mere 200,000 people on one of their 10,000 islands would be on the back-burner of their internal government's priorities.

THE EGYPTIAN Spice Market, Istanbul

DAWN over the Mediterranean

Rauf Denktas (who famously stormed out of UN talks until they agreed to address him as "Your Excellency") is charismatic, persuasive, and mule-headed. In 1960, a Republic of Cyprus was created with Greece, Turkey, and Britain as "protector powers"; i.e., they could intervene if they thought the bases of treaty creating the republic were being breached. This is why the 1974 landing of Turkish troops and occupation of the northern 37 percent of the island was justifiable as "intervention." In the succeeding years, officially-sanctioned "exchanges of population" took place, with Turkish Cypriots heading north and Greek Cypriots heading south. The interaction between the two halves of the island still has a Marx-Brothers air of illogic to it. Busloads of workers, mostly construction laborers, trudge across the Green Line every day in both directions, but have to be back by nightfall. A Turkish Cypriot making a call to someone who might be 15 meters away on the other side of the Green Line has to make an international call, routed through Istanbul and Athens. A tourist to Greek Cyprus can get a day pass to visit the North for a day, but a tourist from the North entering the Greek half will be arrested for "illegal entry" and jailed. The buffer zone that runs through Nicosia is a scary sight: barbed wire, watchtowers, menacing soldiers with rifles slung over their shoulders.

Trying

There are more Turkish Cypriots living abroad than on the island, mostly in England and Australia. It is not difficult to leave, and most of the young intelligentsia do: our Ministry official had gone to university in Istanbul and New York; a tall, attractive woman in her late twenties with whom I chatted up had studied at an Ivy League university. "There were three Turkish Cypriots at the university," she told me, "and on our national day, we put up a few flags. The Greek Cypriots immediately submitted a protest to the university officials, who made us take them down." I asked her why she was here, in an obviously inconsequential Ministry position, when she could be in New York or London or Melbourne. "Because as long as there is a possibility of the existence of a Turkish Republic of Cyprus, we cannot stop trying."

I tried to put an adjective to her attitude, as well as that of every official we met, and even the taxi drivers and waiters with whom I had struck up a conversation. Defeatist resignation? Proud, stubborn intransigence and thus the desire to go down without compromise or surrender? The inertia of an inherited cause, carrying on the struggle because it was the only thing they knew to do? The alignment of global politics was definitely not on their side: the (Greek) Republic of Cyprus was being considered for acceptance in the European Union; Turkey's entry was at least a decade away, and its economy, meanwhile, was reaching a crisis of its own, which would have consequences on its generosity to top up the national deficit of the TRNC and continue sending over those mysterious water-balloons. The politicians in their impeccable suits and Oxbridge accents continued to talk. Why? Like everything else on the island, it defeats logic. The very existence of the TRNC defies logic.

Travel, they say, is about asking questions: of oneself, and of the place where one finds oneself; one hopes to take home understanding and insight. But Cyprus, in the same way that it defies logic, defies comprehension, and demands of us another way of apprehending its spirit. I stood along the coast and watched the age-old scene of the deep, rich blue of the Mediterranean, like a bold stroke of pure color squeezed from an oil-painter's tube; and the sunlight, an uncompromising harsh illumination that glinted, unyielding, off the ripples of the water and the scrub and yellow dry earth of the peninsula curving into the distance. The traffic along the two-lane highway grinds to a halt as a flock of sheep meander their way across, without shepherd in sight, to forage amidst the few patches of vegetation that pushed its way up through the stony ground. And the next day, for breakfast, there would be bread and cheese, and olives and figs.

Where the relentless questioning and desire for coherence ends, comprehension begins. The sun and the sea; the wind on one's cheek; the landscapes that inscribe themselves in memory; the encounter is a sensual one, of elements and tastes and nakedness; scorning metaphysics, ignoring the petty games played by forgettable power-brokers of history. In a country that does not exist, in a land without a future, there are some things that continue to be real.

Medicine donation campaign going on

SOME of the country's top civic and government groups, media organizations and media got together for the recent launching of SM Foundation's "Gamot Para Sa Kapwa" medicine donation campaign at the SM Megamall Atrium.

The campaign, ongoing at all SM Supermalls, ends Sept. 30. It is a joint project of the SM Foundation, Kapwa Ko Mahal Ko Foundation and the Department of Social Welfare and Development. Other project partners are Family Drugstore, Missionaries of the Poor, and the Manila Broadcasting Company's dzRH Operation Tulong, Yes FM and Love Radio.

Singer Nonoy Zuniga and KKMK executive director Dr. Mel Capistrano emceed the program. Fr. Gem Roma of St. Peter and John Parish gave the invocation while SM Supermalls vice president for operations Annie Garcia delivered the welcome remarks.

Batang K, kids with leukemia who are beneficiaries of Kiosk, a cardiac pulmonary resuscitation demonstration by the Philippine National Red Cross, sang the Lord's Prayer followed by a video presentation of "Gamot Para sa Kapwa's" medical assistance programs.

Plaques of recognition were given to pharmaceutical companies that have contributed to the campaign. They include Astra-Zeneca Multi-care, Abbott Laboratories, Glaxo Smith Kline, Diamond Laboratories, Elan Pharmaceuticals Inc., New Pfizer Inc., United Laboratories, Wyeth-Whitehall, Sara Lee and Merck Sharp Dohme.

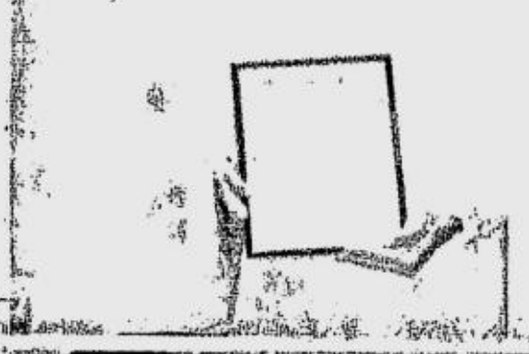
"Gamot Para sa Kapwa" also accepts donation from the public of unopened and unexpired medicine at booths at all SM Supermalls. Each donor gets a cash coupon from Family Drugstore. He/she can also avail of special health care services at the booths.

Those present at the launch were KKMK president Orlando Mercado, Mandaluyong Vice Mayor Jesse Cruz, Social Welfare Assistant Secretary Ruth Layug, MBC president Ruperto Nicdao Jr., SM's Felicidad Sy, SM Foundation's Connie Angeles and Lydia Echauz and Family Drugstore senior AVP for operations Grace Rivera.

PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE. Kapwa Ko Mahal Ko president Orlando Mercado and Mandaluyong Vice Mayor Jesse Cruz cut the ceremonial ribbon of "Gamot Para sa Kapwa." Joining them are (from left) Family Drugstore president Grace Rivera, SM Foundation's Lydia Echauz, Connie Angeles and DSWD's Ruth Layug.

NONOY Zuñiga

ELAN Pharmaceuticals Inc.'s Roni Gatchalian receives their company's plaque of appreciation. With her are MBC president Ruperto Nickdao, Grace Rivera, Vice Mayor Jesse Cruz and Ruth Layug.



UNITED Laboratories receives a plaque of appreciation.

DANTE Tunay of Glaxo Smith Kline hands over the company's donation to Orlando Mercado.

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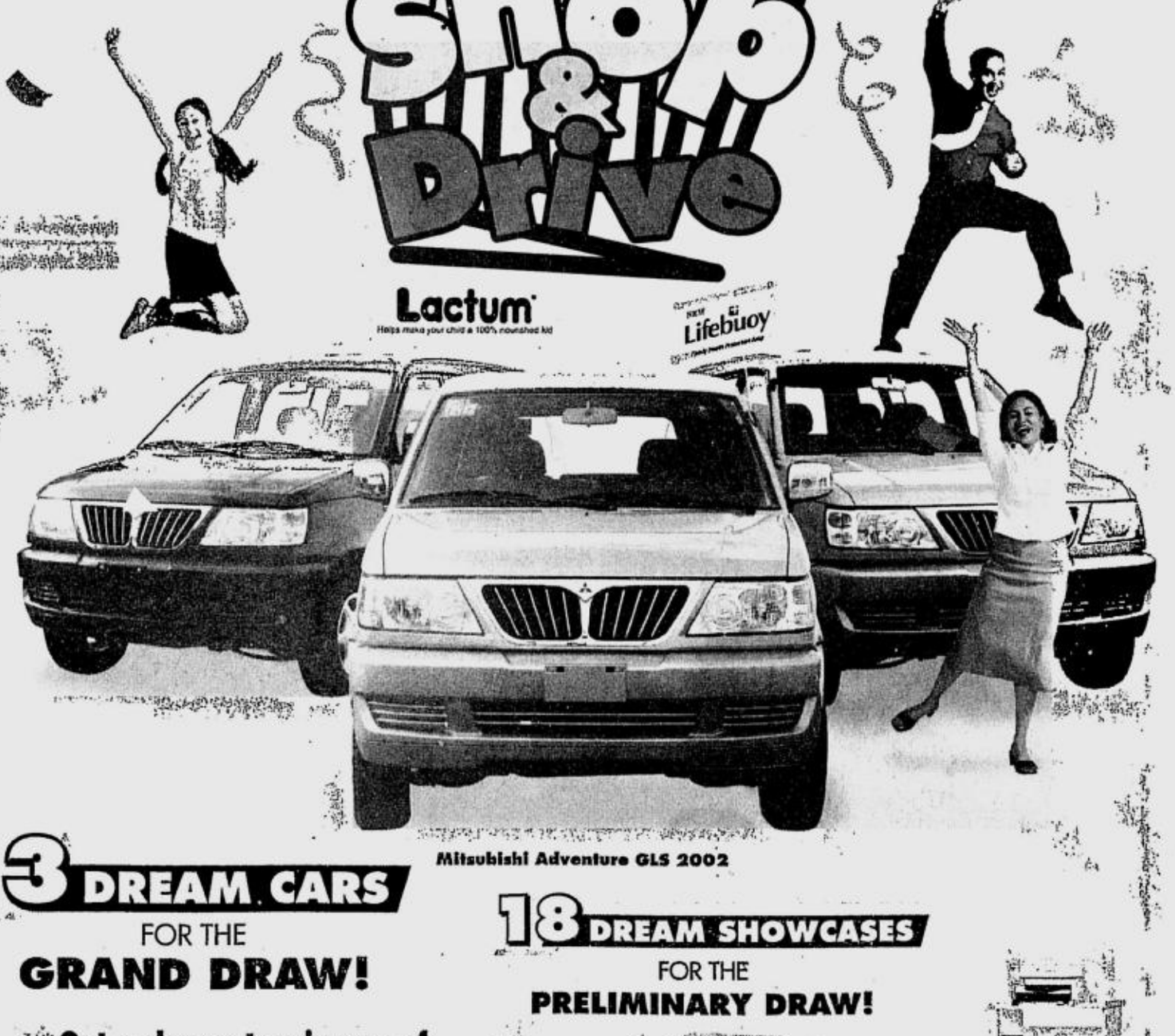

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Boots now making Manila's fashion scene

THIS time they come in different shapes and sizes, just as long as they are pointed

BY ANTON SAN DIEGO

MUST-HAVE LOOK—Boots. This is probably one of the fall fashion's major statements, 'Thou shall wear boots!' This time around there is much to choose from. You can wear them ruffled, strapped, knee-high, or with ankle trimming as long as they are pointed. But while it's okay to wear cowboy boots, it is not advised, unless you are **Madonna**. Boots are all right for both men and women. If you flip through international magazines, most major ad campaigns by various fashion houses show models wearing boots. I tried to scout around the city for a pair for me but I haven't seen anything I like. I did see one at Kenneth Cole but they did not have my size. Oh well, drop me an e-mail if you find something because I am desperate to get a pair!

Diary of Constance Brooke San Lorenzo Pendleton—Götterdämmerung. This week our favorite ex-Mare and socialite talks about the World Trade Center disaster. This is her take on the tragic events. Does she make sense? Read on.

"Last Tuesday, I tuned in to CNN while waiting for 'Sex and the City' to start on HBO. Like everyone else, I never made it to HBO. I do not think I have ever been so horrified in my life. My jaw literally dropped at the sight of a passenger jet slamming into a World Trade Center (WTC) tower. But the horror didn't end there. Like a Wagnerian opera being played in front of me, I saw another plane slam into the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. Afterward, the south tower collapsed then the north. All I could think of was what is this world coming to?

"I then spent the rest of the night trying to reach my children who are both in New York. Thank God, I insisted that my son turn down the job offer from Morgan Stanley (the largest tenant at the WTC with 50 floors) and accept a job offer from Goldman Sachs! Their mobile phones were not working because, as I found out later, the major cell sites were all on top of the WTC! Luckily, my children were unharmed. For once, their "Third World hoarding mentality" (I can't blame that on Reed) came into play. They told me they immediately ran out to buy candles, flashlights and canned goods. Their friends were quite surprised to see them buying Spam (not available at Balducci's) and canned corned beef like all good Pinoys! You have to understand that Spam is not exactly chic in New York so their friends were very surprised indeed. And they didn't even hear about my kids filling up their bath tubs with water! If I sound relieved it is because I am. You cannot imagine how glad I was when they finally called. If you're a mother, perhaps you can.

"I have many fond memories of the World Trade Center and its surrounding area—Windows on the World was a swell place when it opened (quite unlike the tourist trap it became) and the TKTS outlet was always far less crowded than the one on Duffy Square—fewer tourists. The view was, of course, wonderful. As I write this, I also wonder what happened to Century 21, which was right across the street. I hope it survived—wherever will I get hugely discounted designer clothes again? The thought that it is all gone is something I am not sure I want to deal with just yet. We must not forget that the WTC was not just a tourist attraction—it was a place where real people, 50,000 of them, worked. The horror of it all is overwhelming.

"For the first time in a long time I can honestly say I am happy to be in the

BOOTS/ p.E3

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SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

October 1 (Monday) 9:00-12:30 p.m. P1,200 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY RECIPES by: Heny Sison *Dark Fruitcake, White Fruitcake, Walnut Torte, Rum-Raisin Walnut Cheesecake, Festive Cookie Bar & Prune Bar

October 1 (Monday) 1:30-5:00 p.m. P1,200 BROWNIES & BARS by: Heny Sison *Chewy-Moist Brownies, Carrot Cake Bars with Cream Cheese Icing, Lemon Cheesecake Bars, Brownies with Caramel Center & Butterscotch Bars

October 2 (Tuesday) 9:00-4:30 p.m. P1,500 TART WORKSHOP by: Heny Sison *Complete your basket of goodies with assorted tarts. An ideal gifts for Christmas! Recipes: Macapuno Tarts, Cashew Tarts, Mango Tart, Pili Tart and Egg Tart

October 3 (Wednesday) 9:30-4:00 p.m. P1,200 CAKE ART SPECIALTIES III by: Jill Sandique, Chef/Food Consultant & Food Stylist, Blue Ribbon graduate of Peter Kump's New York Cooking School *Concorde Cake, White Chocolate Mousse, Sour Cream Streusel Coffee Cake, Chocoholic's Delight, Fruit Tarts, Cocoa & Lemon Biscuits

October 4 (Thursday) 9:00-4:00 p.m. P1,200 SPECIAL CAKES by: Heny Sison *Coffee Crunch, Tiramisu, Black Forest Cake, Nelusco, Mocha Cake with Mocha Filling & Icing & Rum Cake

October 5 (Friday) 9:00-1:00 p.m. P1,500 FRENCH COOKING IV by: Jill Sandique *Asparagus with Sauce Hollandaise, Onion Soup, Blanquette de Veau, Riz Pilau, Sautéed Chicken with Sauce Bourguignonne and Strawberries with Orange-Sabayon

October 5 (Friday) 1:30-5:30 p.m. P1,500 ELEGANT DESSERTS by: Jill Sandique *English Trifle, Tiramisu, Coeur a la Créme, Panna Cotta, Profiteroles and Mount Vesuvius

October 6 (Saturday) 9:00-1:30 p.m. P1,200 BASIC CAKES & ICINGS FOR BEGINNERS by: Heny Sison *Butter Cake with Butter Icing, Moist Chocolate Cake with Fudge Frosting, Mocha Cake with No-Melt Butter Icing, Lemon Chiffon Cake with Boiled Icing and Sponge Cake with Whipped Cream Icing

October 8 (Monday) 10:00-4:00 p.m. P1,500 MOMMY LILY'S HOMESTYLE COOKING by: Lily Banzon *Bringhe, Dinúguan, Puto, Kare-Kare and Adobong Sugpo

October 9 (Tuesday) 9:30-4:00 p.m. P1,500 HOLIDAY GOODIES by: Jill Sandique *Buche de Noel, Madeleines, Italian Trifle, Financier, Chocolate Broas, Chocolate Almond Mousse and Macadamia Sans Rival

October 10 (Wednesday) 9:30-4:00 p.m. P1,500 DESSERT SHOWCASE by: Jill Sandique *Lemon Gratin with Raspberry Coulis, Ricotta Triangles, Strawberry Kiwi Gouttiere, Empress Torte, Margarita Mousse Cake & Frozen Macadamia Pie

October 11 (Thursday) 10:00-4:00 p.m. P1,500 LAURIAT SAMPLER III by: Katherine Sion, restarateur (Ding Hao & Fat Kat), caterer and an expert in Chinese cuisine *Hot & Sour Soup, Fried Seafood Roll, Stir-Fry Pork, Kidney with Kutchay Flower, Braised Fishhead with Beancurd in Pot, Chicken Cutlets with Lemon Sauce & Fried Rice with Salted Fish

October 13 (Saturday) 9:30-4:00 p.m. P2,000 BASIC FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS by: Glenn Remorca, floral designer *Learn the theories, style, trends, techniques, sourcing, flower care and maintenance, basic forms, arrangements and flowers for wedding. Lecture, demonstration and hand-on production. Bring a pair of scissors.

October 15-19/22-26 (Monday-Friday) 9:00-4:00 p.m. P8,000 MASTER IN CAKE DECORATION/ BASIC by: Heny Sison *A two-week practical basic cake decorating designed for shop owner, teacher, baker, chef and enthusiast. Includes fancy borders, over 20 icing flowers, color flow, method of printing and script, sugar molding, flower bunching, figure piping, decorated cookies, birthday & wedding cake assembly. Full participation.

October 20 (Saturday) 9:30-4:00 p.m. P1,200 DESSERTS MADE EASY by: Jill Sandique *Frozen Coffee Cream Roll, Chocolate Bavarian, Snow Mousse, Floating Island, Mango Ice Box Cake and Butterscotch Banana Cream Pie

October 27 (Saturday) 9:30-4:00 p.m. P1,200 GIFTS FROM THE KITCHEN by: Jill Sandique *Angel Food Cake, Date Walnut Bars, Monkey Bread, Lemon Squares, Chocolate Pecan Cookies and Marble Pound Cake

October 29 (Monday) 9:00-4:00 p.m. P1,500 BASIC BREAD BAKING WORKSHOP I by: Heny Sison *Learn a variety of breads using a sweet dough such as: Pan de Sal, Cinnamon Roll, Adobo Roll, Cheese Roll & Dinner Roll

October 30 (Tuesday) 9:00-4:00 p.m. P1,500 PARADE OF PIES, TARTS & CHEESECAKES by: Heny Sison *French Apple Pie with Streusel Topping and Créme Anglaise Sauce, Turtle Pie, Banana Cream Pie with Caramel Topping, Mango Tart, Peach Walnut Pie, Blueberry Cheesecake and White Chocolate Cheesecake

WATCH "A TASTE OF LIFE WITH HENY SISON" at IBC Channel 13 every Sunday, 11:00-12:00 noon

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Joe D' Mango
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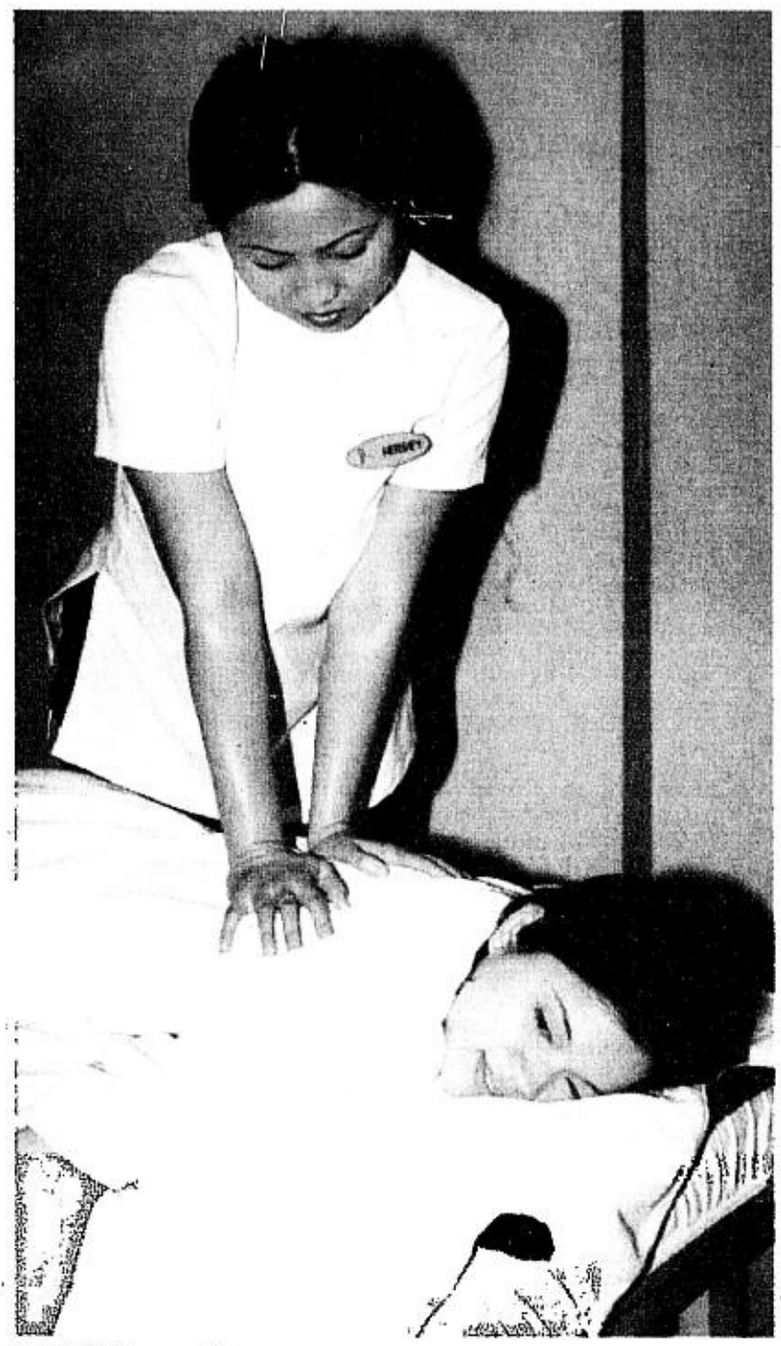
Card responds to women's special needs



TOUCH therapy to ease your cares

WOMEN often wear multiple hats—mother, wife, sister, career-woman, friend, daughter—the list goes on and on. Multi-tasking seems to be the routine for today's woman.

Gone are the days when women would be content just to sit at home caring for the kids and the hubby. Though mothering is the noblest profession in the world, the economic situation of most Filipino households today dictates that a woman should try to contribute to the family kitty. Many women have achieved a great degree of financial independence. Their earning and, subsequently, purchasing power are nothing to sniff at.

With the Filipino woman becoming so much a part of the corporate world, the newest credit card in town—the RED MasterCard from the Hongkong Shanghai Bank Corporation (HSBC)—is designed to address her unique needs. The RED MasterCard is a full-fledged international credit card accepted in over 17 million establishments worldwide. It offers an interest-free period of 51 days and easy-payment terms of as low as 5 percent a month. Free travel accident insurance coverage worth up to P1.5 million is available to cardholders who charge their tickets to the card. Every P10 spent also entitles cardholders to Rewards points which, when accumulated, may be exchanged for gifts, value and cash vouchers, air miles and others.

Aside from the standard features of a world-class international credit card, the RED MasterCard carries additional benefits tailored specifically for women.

Knowing that women are often wont to forget their own health due to their many responsibilities, the credit card has forged a strategic alliance with the Healthway Medical Clinics (HMC) for a wide range of special health packages and valuable discounts for cardholders. Cardholders get a 20 percent discount for women-specific medical consultation and laboratory tests like pap smear, breast ultrasound, ovarian uterine screening and osteoporosis or bone thinning. Women often put off undergoing these tests that are specific to them because of busy schedules or concerns about cost. Cardholders will also get a 5 percent discount on medicines bought at (HMC) pharmacies and reduced dermatology consultation or oral prophylaxis fees of P250 and P150, respectively. They will receive a voucher entitling them to purchase a Healthway Woman Package for only P500, an offer exclusive to RED MasterCard holders. The package includes one free complete medical examination and a 10 percent discount on laboratory tests, rehab modalities and use of the operating room for minor surgical procedures, for a year.

In addition to these great health benefits, cardholders can purchase a life insurance policy with a "female cancer rider" (a lump sum payment is given upon diagnosis of cancer) from PhilamLife that are available at special premium rates and affordable monthly installment payments through RED MasterCard. With that, a woman will have gained benefits in the areas of health and security (insurance) simply by owning this card that knows what every woman wants and needs.

The RED MasterCard also offers simple joys like an afternoon at the salon or an hour at the spa. After a week of killing yourself at the office, attending to the children and your husband's needs plus a gazillion other chores, it is only right that you restore the balance to your harried life by treating yourself to simple joys.

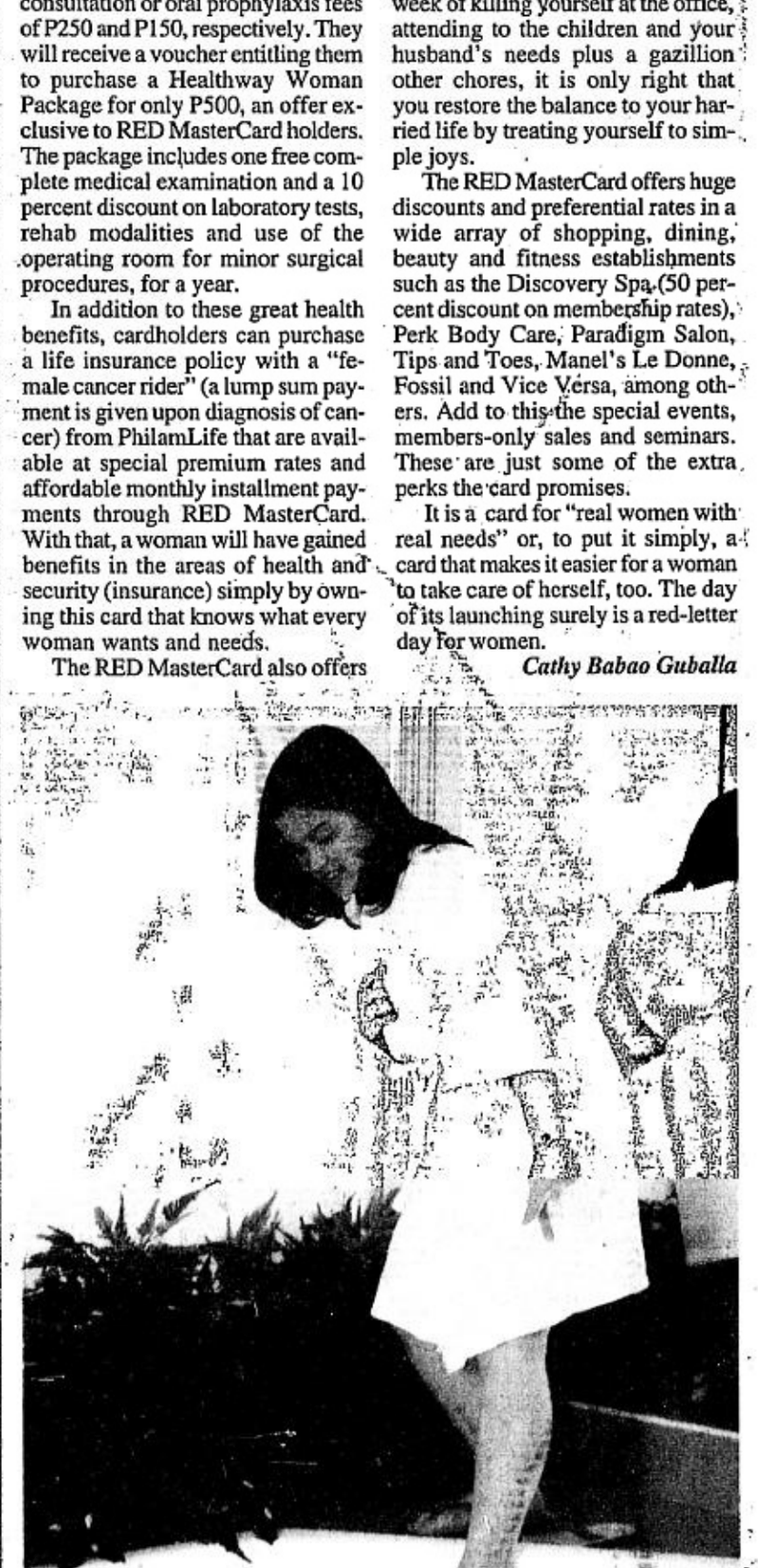
The RED MasterCard offers huge discounts and preferential rates in a wide array of shopping, dining, beauty and fitness establishments such as the Discovery Spa (50 percent discount on membership rates), Perk Body Care, Paradigm Salon, Tips and Toes, Manel's Le Donne, Fossil and Vice Versa, among others. Add to this the special events, members-only sales and seminars. These are just some of the extra perks the card promises.

It is a card for "real women with real needs" or, to put it simply, a card that makes it easier for a woman to take care of herself, too. The day of its launching surely is a red-letter day for women.

Cathy Babao Guballa

PAMPERING at Paradigm Salon

WELL WOMAN. Huge discounts at Healthway



SOAK your stress away at the Discovery Spa.

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Get double orders of Kenny's Snacks at double deal prices!
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spaghetti, muffin & 340 ml. coke
for only P65
mac & cheese, muffin & 340 ml. coke
mac & cheese, muffin & 340 ml. coke
for only P75
pita & 340 ml. coke
Choice of Roasted, Caesar & BBQ Pita
pita & 340 ml. coke
Choice of Roasted, Caesar & BBQ Pita
• For dine-in & take-out only.
• Valid from 2-6pm only.
• Promo period is from Sept.14-October 29, 2001.
• Not valid with any other promos or discounts.
Kenny Rogers Roasters
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3006 Series of 2001.

Boots now making Manila's fashion scene

(From page E1)

Philippines. I don't think we figure on terrorists' hit lists! We may be poor but at least we're alive. Please pray for peace to whoever God you pray to—I am sure He/She will listen. Götterdämmerung is what it felt like but let's hope this is not the Twilight of the Gods."

Michael Jackson tirade. About three weeks ago I wrote about **Michael Jackson** and a character from the "Planet of the Apes" being separated at birth. Well, I was shocked to get a barrage of e-mail from the Jackson camp. What was funny about the whole thing was that most of the letters did not come from the Philippines but from other parts of the world. Even funnier were threats, like the one in an e-mail from Australia, that they would not buy the newspaper ever again. Some even explained why Michael looks like that. "It's because he has vitaligo" or "He has changed his look because he does not want to look like his father who abused him." All this got me thinking. What has happened to the boy who sang, "Give love on Christmas Day" or the teenager who sang, "She's out of my life"? No one knows. Probably what Michael has become is not weird to the letter senders (even if it is to me). Anyway, it's his choice and that I respect. So, in the spirit of being nice, I apologize.

New tennis sensation. He's 19 years old, 6'2", 185 pounds, gorgeous, serves at a cracking 140 mph and is poised to replace **Andre Agassi** and **Pete Sampras** as the next US tennis superstar. If you saw the US Open (he lost to **Lleyton Hewitt** in the semis), you would have seen that teenager **Andy Roddick** has what it takes to follow in Sampras' and Agassi's footsteps. He, along with fellow Americans **Venus** and **Serena Williams** and US Open winner Hewitt, has made tennis exciting again. Now that Agassi and Sampras are in their prime (read: 31 and 30 years old, respectively) and set to retire, these young hopefuls seem to have what it takes to reign for a long time. My only hope is that Roddick loses his hair before he reaches 30, just like Agassi and Sampras did.

Another magazine in the Philippines. It's a magazine for arbiters of good taste, high society and glamour. The latest edition of Asia's highly successful Tatler magazine is now available in Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia and now (drum roll, please) the Philippines. The grand launch will be at 6 p.m. on Sept. 20, Captain's Bar, Mandarin Oriental. The first issue is truly a must-buy because of the cover—four women who you would never have expected to be photographed together, or to be even in the same place. Get the magazine now at your favorite bookstores!

A prayer for all. I was at a dinner Tuesday night when a friend informed me of the plane that crashed into the World Trade Center. We all rushed to a friend's house to watch the news on television. Like everyone around the world, we were shocked. I have been following subsequent developments and I must say that before I close my eyes to sleep and when I wake up, I cry.

My prayer, like yours, is for the families and friends the victims left behind and for divine wisdom for the world leaders so they would make right and firm decisions.

May God give those who lost a loved one comfort in their sorrow and pain. It is easy to doubt your faith, but God is there, always has and always will be. He is in every fireman, policeman and person continually helping victims and praying for them. Despite what has happened we must keep the faith. This, too, will pass.

E-mail the author at asd_world@hotmail.com

IN ACTION. New teenage sensation and hunk Andy Roddick

It's a month-long festivity this September at The Manila Galleria Suites! Join us as we celebrate our 8th year anniversary with 50% off on room rates and 25% off on buffet during weekends. Enjoy a concert at the Raphael by The Manila Philharmonic Orchestra with a special P800++ buffet! And as a token of appreciation to our top corporate accounts, we're throwing a party with Next Level on September 14 and a movie premiere on September 27 at Robinsons Galleria Movie World. Don't miss this festive celebration as we at The Manila Galleria Suites express our heartfelt gratitude to you!

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Active child needs more b vitamins.Playing, whether it's for sports or just for fun, takes a lot of energy. And so does physical rowth. That's why growing children, especially those who are active need energy-releasing B vitamins. An active child needs more b vitamins since body's oxygen at a level that promotes the release of energy. Pantothenic acid is essential in the metabolism of protein, fat, and carbohydrates for the release of energy. Why do active children needs more b vitamins?Active children need more b vitamins primarily to meet their high energy demands. Aside from this, their higher rate of metabolism calls for it. And since b vitamins are water-soluble, so dissolv

pantothenic acid play important roles in the process of releasing energy from food. Vitamins b1 helps the body release energy from carbohydrates during metabolism. It also promotes growth and muscle tone. Vitamin b2 helps the body release energy from protein, fat, and carbohydrates during metabolism. It also helps improve athletic performance. Vitamin b12 helps keep cells in the body's oxygen at a level that promotes the release of energy. Pantothenic acid is essential in the metabolism of protein, fat, and carbohydrates for the release of energy. Why do active children needs more b vitamins?Active children need more b vitamins primarily to meet their high energy demands. Aside from this, their higher rate of metabolism calls for it. And since b vitamins are water-soluble, so dissolv

energy. They can get this from food rich in protein, fat, and carbohydrates energy from these nutrients, they need b vitamins. Vitamin b1 (thiamin), b2 (riboflavin), b12 (cobalamin) and pantothenic acid all play important roles in performance. Vitamin b12 helps keep cells in the circulatory, nervous, and digestive systems in good working condition. It is process of releasing energy from food. Vitamins b1

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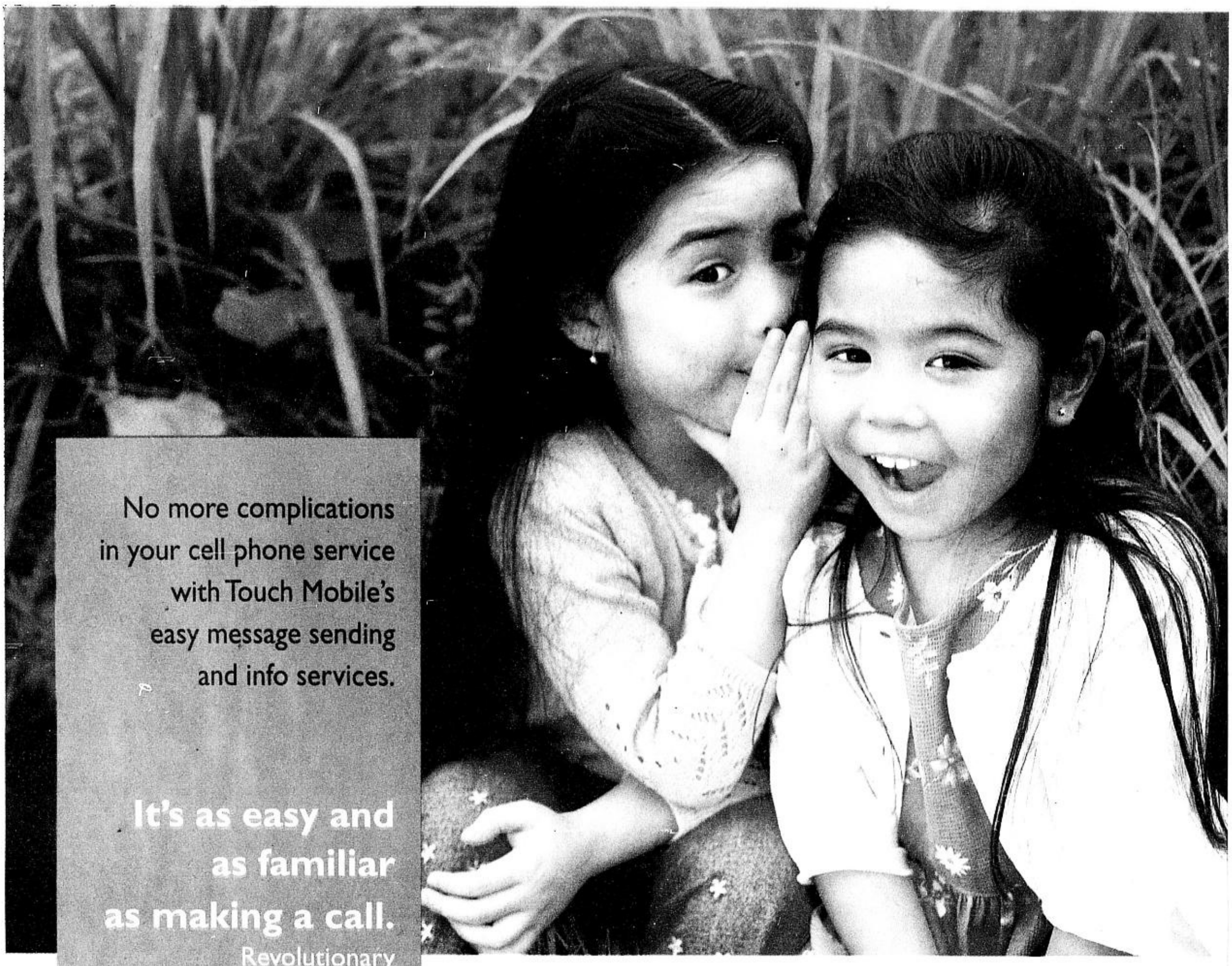

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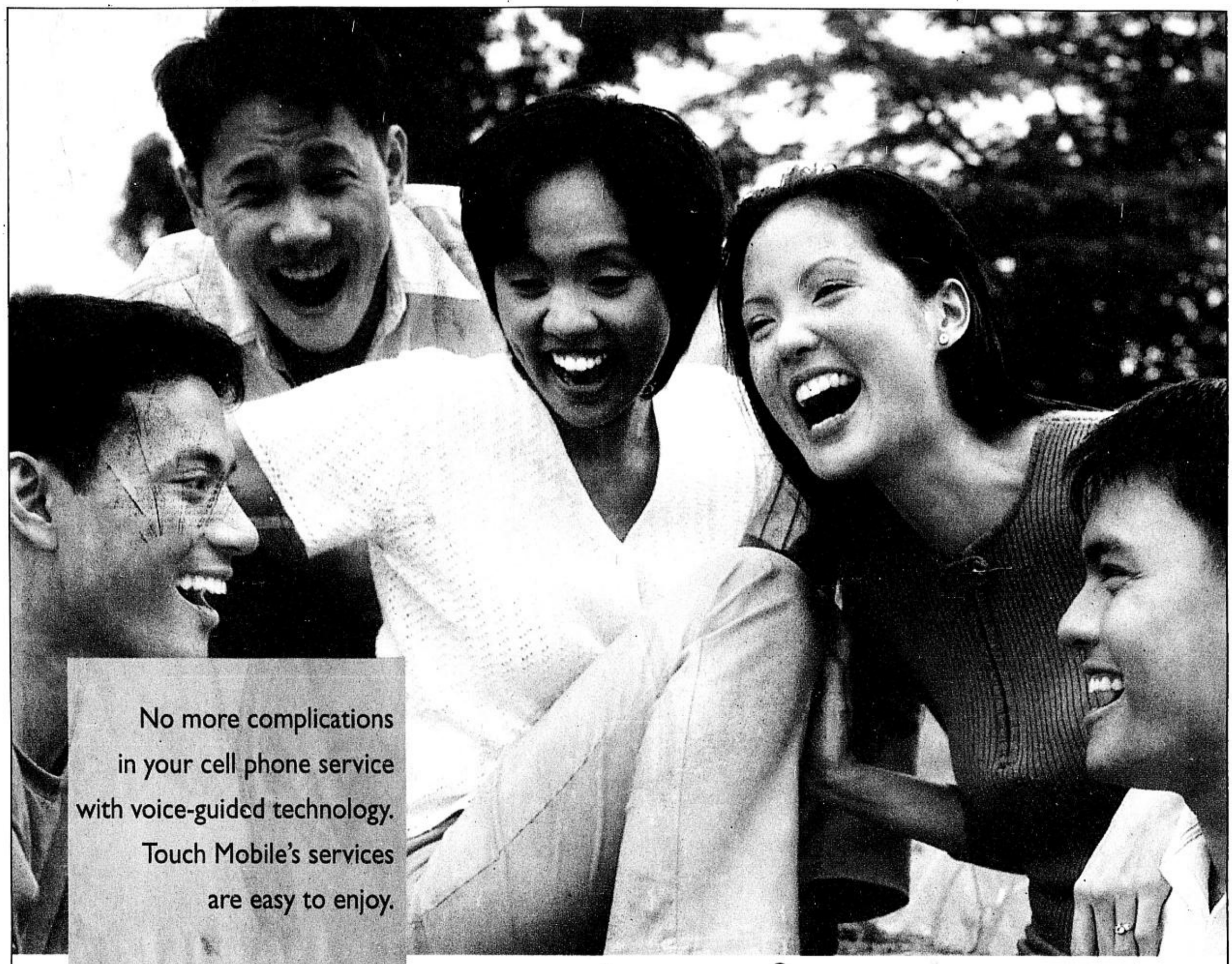

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- SMS Chat
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Phonekit price:
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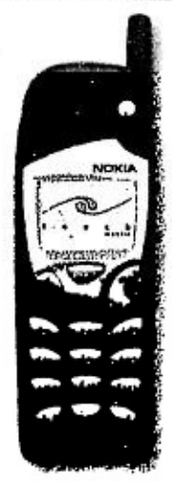

Nokia 5110i

- Changeable front color covers
- Updated Navigation Keys
- Personalized picture message
- Talktime: 5.0 hrs.
- Standby time: 270 hrs.

Phonekit price:
P 4,390

Panasonic GD35

- Small and light for ease of carrying
- Large view area
- Clock
- Alarm
- Calculator
- Games

Phonekit price:
P 4,190

Philips Fisio 311

- Big graphic screen
- Full Carousel Interface
- Animated Screen Savers
- 50 emotion icons
- Talktime: 3.0 hrs.
- Standby time: 300 hrs.

- Get a FREE cell phone stand
(Promo valid from Sept. 14 – Oct. 14, 2001)

Phonekit price:
P 4,890

Sendo S200

- User friendly menus
- Receive and compose ringtones
- 6-liner with animated graphics
- SMS picture messaging
- Talktime: 3.0 hrs
- Standby time: 300 hrs.

Phonekit price:
P 4,890

Siemens A36

- Dual band
- High resolution screen
- Weighs 120 grams
- Talktime: 4.0 hrs.
- Standby time: 348 hrs.

Phonekit price:
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From The Director Of "Pretty Woman" And "Runaway Bride"

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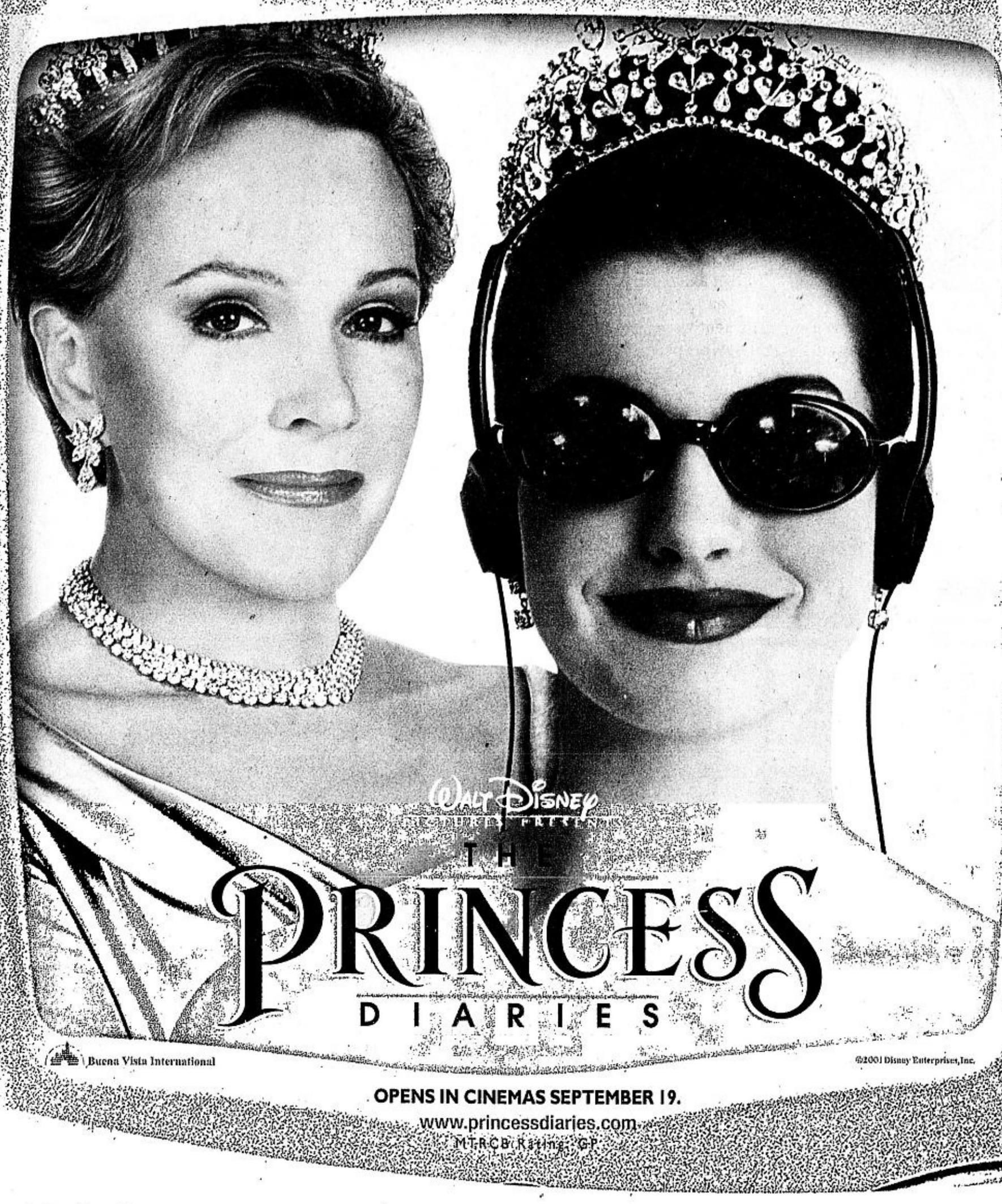
THE SMART Cinema Club invites you to watch



OPENS IN CINEMAS SEPTEMBER 19.

www.princessdiaries.com

MTRCB Rating: GP

Join the Smart Cinema Club now and discover how much of a prince or princess you are! You also get access to exclusive movie logos, picture messages, group graphics, and screen savers!

Official Princess Diaries logos

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(Operator Logo/Group Graphic)	(Picture Message/Screen Saver)	(Operator Logo/Group Graphic)	(Picture Message/Screen Saver)	(Picture Message/Screen Saver)

Show some class with the official Princess Diaries graphics. All these are available only to Smart Cinema Club members, so join now by keying in **JOIN CINEMA**. To invite friends to join, key in **INVITE** <your friends' numbers>. You can invite up to three friends at one time. If you need more information on different keywords, key in **HELP** <command>. Send all commands to 239.

To Get Princess Diaries...	Key In...
Logo List of Keywords	LOGO PD and send to 239
Logos*	LOGO <keyword> and send to 229
Group Graphics Keywords	GROUP PD and send to 239
Group Graphics*	GROUP <keyword> and send to 239
Picture Messages List of Keywords	PIC PD and send to 239

To Get Princess Diaries...	Key In...
Picture Messages	PIC <keyword> and send to 239
Screen Savers List of Keywords	SAVER PD and send to 239
Screen Savers**	SAVER <keyword> and send to 239
To take the Personality Test	PLAY <PD/PD2/PD3/PD4> and send to 239
To invite a friend to take the test	SHARE <your friend's #> and send to 239

All text messages sent are P2.50 each.

*Available on selected Nokia handsets only **Available on Nokia 3310, 3330, and 8250

Promo Mechanics:

1. From Sept 14-20, 2001, all Smart Cinema Club members who download a logo, picture message, group graphic, or screen saver shall get one computer-generated point each. The top fifty cinema club members with the highest points collected will win two free regular screening movie passes each for The Princess Diaries at SM cinemas (GMA only). To know the number of points accumulated, key in DPOINTS and send to 239.
2. Winners will be notified via text message or a voice call to their registered cellfone number.
3. Prizes will be sent to the winner's registered address.
4. Winners should present their active Smart GSM cellfone with the winning SIM number and valid I.D. w/ photo.
4. Smart Money cardholders who use their card to buy any movie ticket at SM Megamall from Sept. 14-20 will automatically win a pair of Princess Diaries movie tickets. Smart Money cardholders can win only once and may claim their tickets at TSI Center located at SM Megamall, 5th level, Bldg. A. Princess Diaries movie passes will be accepted at any SM cinema until the end of the regular screening day.
5. Promos are valid for GMA residents only.

WANT TO KNOW IF YOU'RE FIT FOR ROYALTY?
Take the Princess Diaries personality test on your cellfone!
Key in PLAY <PD/PD2/PD3/PD4> and send to 239.
Let your friends to take it too. Key in SHARE <your friend's #> and send to 239. Take any of these tests:
PD -- Which famous personality are you?
PD2 -- You and your crush...match or complement?
PD3 -- What's your personality?
PD4 -- Are you high or low maintenance?
To answer the test questions, simply press REPLY and key in the number (1, 2, 3, or 4) corresponding your choice. Press SEND.

Note: If you're already playing a Smart Cinema Club game, quit first before you take the test.

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Week Walker's Jumpers

Vicky Garchitorena airs side on 'bastusan'

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VICKY Garchitorena of the Presidential Management Staff, Malacañang assures transparency in the NCCA.

I WRITE in response to your article bannered "'Bastusan' at NCCA" (PDI Lifestyle, 09/09/01).

1. Mr. **Virgilio Almario** was not "unceremoniously booted out" as executive director of the National Commission on Culture and the Arts (NCCA). Mr. Almario informed me personally during a telephone conversation that he would much rather go back to UP and that he wanted to start writing again. He was only concerned about his lack of teaching load. I offered him my support and assured him that I would help him return to UP without any diminution in compensation. UP Chancellor **Emerlinda Roman**, who wrote Mr. Almario to report back to UP, assured me on the matter. (I attach a copy of the letter of Chancellor Roman to Mr. Almario for your information.)

There was absolutely no pressure exerted on Chancellor Roman on the matter. Neither did the budget of UP ever come up. You may wish to confirm this with her.

Allow me to stress that the position of executive director of the NCCA is an administrative one and has no fixed term of office. The executive director serves at the pleasure of the commission. The commission voted to accept Mr. Almario's resignation immediately and to appoint Ms **Maria Fina Yonzon**.

2. In the case of NCCA chair **Jaime Laya**, he offered to resign in a letter to the President dated Jan. 22, 2001. He even offered to help her choice get elected. His resignation was accepted by then Executive Secretary **Renato de Villa**. (I attach copies of the letter of Mr. Laya to the President and the letter of E.S. de Villa to Mr. Laya for your information.)

At the time, however, the President had not made such a choice. Indeed, her stand, which she made public, was that she would respect the independence of the NCCA and allow the process of choosing its chair to follow the institution's internal rules. So when former Sen. **(Leticia) Shahani** informed the President that she wished to make bid for the chairmanship of the NCCA, the President gave her blessings. She requested however that Ms Shahani go through the required processes of NCCA.

Ms Shahani proceeded to do so. She joined the Library Committee, and was elected its chair. However, some members of the Library Committee reportedly allied with Mr. Laya, declared her membership and election illegal and proceeded to form a second Library Committee and elect a different chair.

These actions were made the basis of a complaint filed by Ms Shahani with the Office of the President (OP), which has administrative supervision over the NCCA. Our lawyers studied the matter, then gave the opinion that: (1) The Library Committee had no basis for declaring the election of Senator Shahani as chair of the Library Committee illegal; and (2) They had abused their authority by forming a second Library Committee.

It was also at this point that Mr. Laya informed us of his desire to run for the chairmanship of the NCCA. Our lawyers informed me, however, that Mr. Laya is disqualified from seeking a third term as chair of the Subcommission on Cultural Heritage. I therefore wrote him a letter (which you have branded "crude"), suggesting that he desist from offering his services for a third term, as this would violate the provisions of the law governing NCCA. (I attach a copy of my letter to Mr. Laya for your information.)

It may be worth noting that Mr. Laya had been elected to the chairmanship of the NCCA in 1998 through a desire letter from **President Estrada**. In fact, Mr. Laya actually had himself APPOINTED by President Estrada in 1998, in direct contravention of the rules of NCCA, which state that the chair should be elected by the commissioners from among themselves. Clearly, he sought presidential intervention, contrary to his current stand for the independence of the NCCA. I attach the desire letter and appointment paper of Mr. Laya for your information.

3. Regarding the request for funding for the renovation of the Barasoain Church. This was a routine referral letter that we send to various government agencies which may have funds or budgets to respond to the hundreds of requests for financial assistance received by the Office of the President for assistance from the President's Social Fund, which is under the management of the PMS. It is up to the department or agency to determine whether the requests fall within their mandate, and it is up to them to follow their own internal rules and processes. We exert no pressure whatsoever on the agencies and respect their internal rules and regulations.

If there is anything I personally stand for, it is good governance. I chose to be a part of the

VICKY/ p.F2

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TALK 'N TEXT PHONE PALS
Get hot PBA action featuring the Talk 'N Text Phone Pals with
TALK 'N TEXT
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Ngayon, pwede mo nang maka-one on one ang iyong favorite PBA Superstars -- through your Talk 'N Text cellphone! Introducing Talk 'N Text JAM, a whole range of interactive services para sa mga PBA fans! Talagang tuloy-tuloy na ang jamming mo with the Talk 'N Text Phone Pals, with Talk 'N Text JAM!
Game na! Check out these cool interactive services, and send to 290.
Choose player — PAL ASI Send — To start interacting with your idol, type PAL <PLAYER NAME> and send to 290. To get the list of available Talk 'N Text Phone Pals, type <LIST> and send to 290.
Slambook — FAVE DRINK Send — To know your idol's favorite things, type FAVE <CATEGORY> and send to 290. Example: Food, movie, song etc.
Superstar Skeds — CAL 09/09 Send — To get updated on your idol's daily calendar, type CAL <MM/DD> and send to 290.
Top Pics — SHOW PIC Send — To download picture messages/autograph logos type SHOW <PIC/LOGO> and send to 290.
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Vicky Garchitorena airs side on 'bastusan'

(From page F1)

Arroyo government because of her strong and undiminished stand against graft and corruption and for higher moral standards in the government and in society.

4. On the qualifications of Department of Tourism Undersecretary **Evelyn Pantig** and Ms Yonzon, you seem to indicate that one is limited to a one-dimensional career. Ms Pantig has risen through the ranks in the DOT, to the highest career level in government for a nonpolitical appointee. She has been with the NCCA since its inception and therefore has the necessary institutional memory. Ms Yonzon, on the other hand, has been characterized as a "rising star" in the Department of Trade and Industry. She will bring into the NCCA the needed management and financial acumen to properly manage its endowment fund as well as its administration. Mr. Laya was himself an accountant by profession and was the governor of the Central Bank under the Marcos regime.

Together, Ms Pantig and Ms Yonzon, with the cooperation of the other members of the Commission, will review all the rules and regulations of the NCCA, ensure that these are valid and enforceable, and ensure greater transparency as well as wider access of the cultural community to participation in the affairs of the NCCA, including access to its resources.

5. On my politics and role in civil society, I am proud of my active participation, over the last 37 years, in the national struggle for democracy, truth, justice, good governance, citizen participation, corporate social responsibility and the appreciation of Philippine history, culture and the arts. I have advocated against apathy, tyranny, corruption, poverty, and environmental degradation. I have helped establish various NGOs and NGO networks in order to strengthen the capability of the citizens to organize themselves against social injustices, and to respond to the needs of the poor and disenfranchised.

6. Finally, I ask that this letter be printed in full to give the public the other side of the issues regarding the NCCA and to clarify some of the issues that you raise against my character and integrity. I also ask that, when you have the opportunity to write again about the NCCA or other matters regarding the PMS, that you contact me for clarification or further information.

(Sgd.) VICTORIA P. GARCHITORENA
Head, Presidential Management Staff

Taipan's pet peeve

TAIPAN **Lucio Tan** apparently has a thing about noise. One of his neighbors in a favorite vacation city found this out firsthand—and the knowledge was financially rewarding. It seemed the barking of the neighbor's dog was not conducive to the taipan's rest and relaxation. The neighbor got paid P700 to silence the noisy mutt. But don't worry. The neighbor did not do anything drastic or fatal to the poor creature—like cutting off its tongue or its head. He simply banished it to the other side of the house where, it seems, its barking no longer disturbs the taipan's sweet dreams.

Social 'services'

A MATINEE idol has found out he was paid half a million pesos to perform "services" to a high-profile business leader without him receiving the money or having any knowledge of the nature of the "services."

The actor and commercial model came to know of the transaction only when at a social, he was approached by the businessman who, in a tone bordering between banter and betrayal, asked him if he had received the money he sent as an advance for his "services" through a middleman. The actor blurted out, "What money?" He could have blurted out, too, "What services?" except that he was too tongue-tied by then.

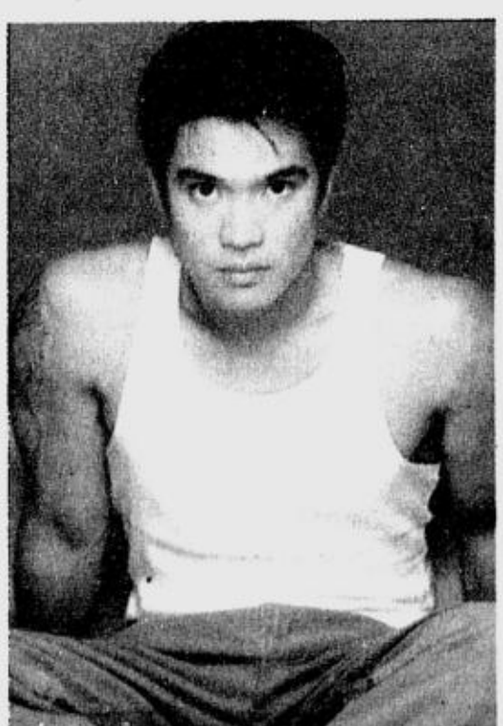
The actor rushed to the talent center that manages him and informed the head of his discovery. The head immediately wrote a letter to the businessman, denying that the agency had received the amount and asking him to course requests next time to the office. Requests for what?

It wasn't exactly smart of the businessman to transact "business" with a middleman. But what's half a million pesos to the billions he regularly invests and earns?

Was the middleman one of the talent center's staffers? Inquiring minds want to know.

Diether moves up

MATINEE idol and commercial model **Diether Ocampo** has moved out of his bachelor's pad in a townhouse on N. Domingo Street in San Juan to a bigger townhouse in South Triangle, Quezon City. The site is closer to ABS-CBN whose talent center manages his career, and also closer to watering holes where he can unwind. The actor is creating quite a buzz with his teamup with sex bombshell **Rosanna Roces** in the forthcoming release "La Vida Rosa," director **Chito Roño**'s take on **Arthur Penn**'s "Bonnie and Clyde."



DIETHER OCAMPO. Bigger bachelor's pad

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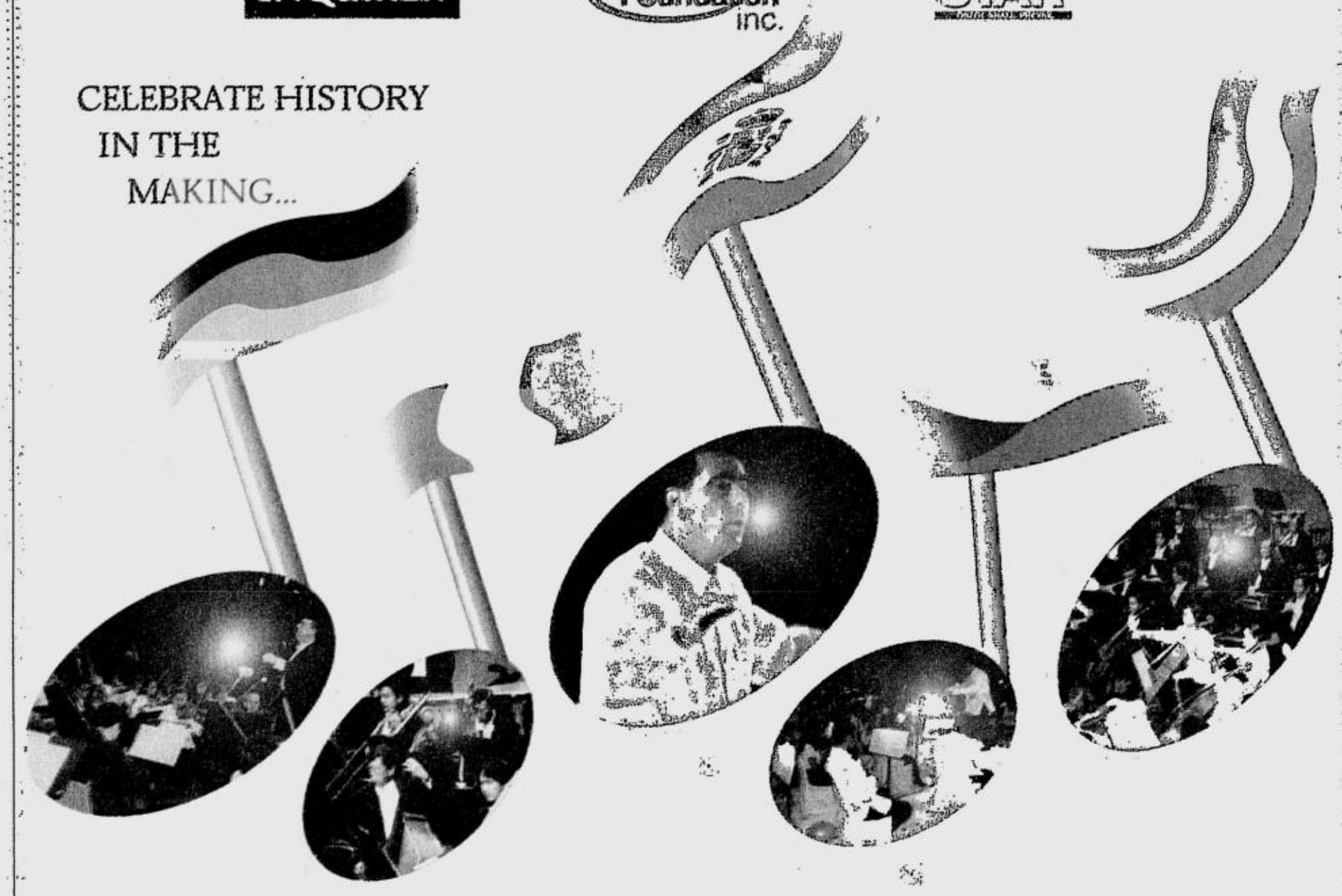

THE 1ST EUROPEAN TOUR OF THE
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ORCHESTRA (PPO)

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with **MAESTRO RUGGERO BARBIERI**
Principal Conductor and Musical Director

October 19 to November 04, 2001

The Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra makes history as it embarks on its first ever European Tour. Conducted by Musical Director Maestro Ruggero Barbieri, the PPO has been invited to perform in Spain in October 2001. Then, the 80-member delegation proceeds to Italy, Austria, Czech Republic and Germany to showcase the world-class quality of Filipino musicians and to honor Philippine communities in Europe. It's a turning point in our musical history as our very own Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra goes on a European Tour.

The PPO will perform in a **Send-Off concert** at the Cultural Center of the Philippines on September 21, 2001, Friday at 8PM before they leave for Spain on October 19, 2001. ***Be a part of history in the making!*** Ticket Price is P300. Tickets are available at:

Cultural Center Box Office
Tel. no. 832-3678

Rustan's Makati
Trunk Line: 813-3739; 893-5665
Customer Service: 867-2307
Store Hours:
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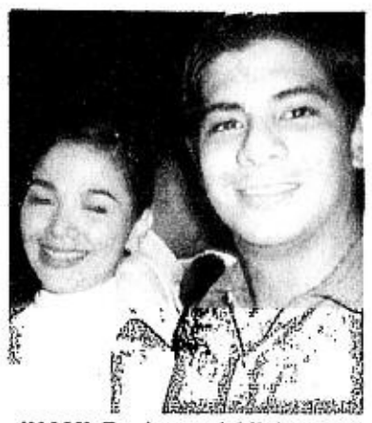
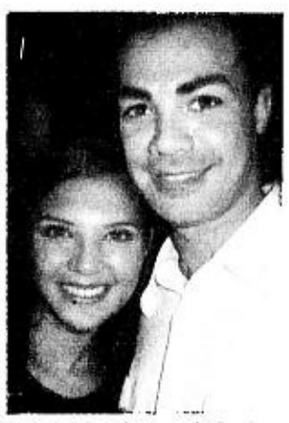
ARTIST Malang (right) with Albert Alavera

LANDER and Regine Vera Perez


JUAMI Rocha and Mickey Ferriols


VINA Morales and Otek

The club scene vibrates with new hot spots

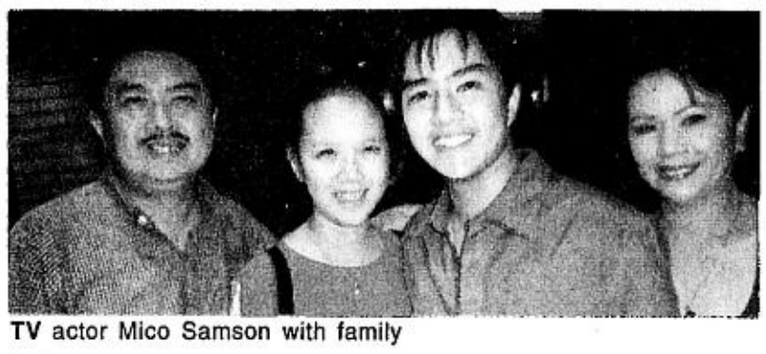
IS there life after Giraffe and Stars? Of course, there is, especially with the sprouting of new hot spots like Dish and Burgoo in Rockwell, Po Na Na in Libis, and Pravda and Wasabi in Makati.

What makes a hot spot? People, food, music, service and the ambiance. Dish has **EJ Litton** and **Philip Cu Unjieng**, a steady stream of celebrity clients, live band music from Side A and the Spirit of 67, a selection of food counters and a casual, nonchalant atmosphere. American Burgoo serves sumptuous dishes à la TGIF. Po Na Na attracts a younger crowd and is making waves, judging from the long queues, especially on weekends.

TEESAW

Raul Teehankee

One thing for sure, we all love the nightlife!


TV actor Mico Samson with family

LEO Valdez in Manila for a break with Patricia Cu Unjieng

SAX player Vince Lahorra

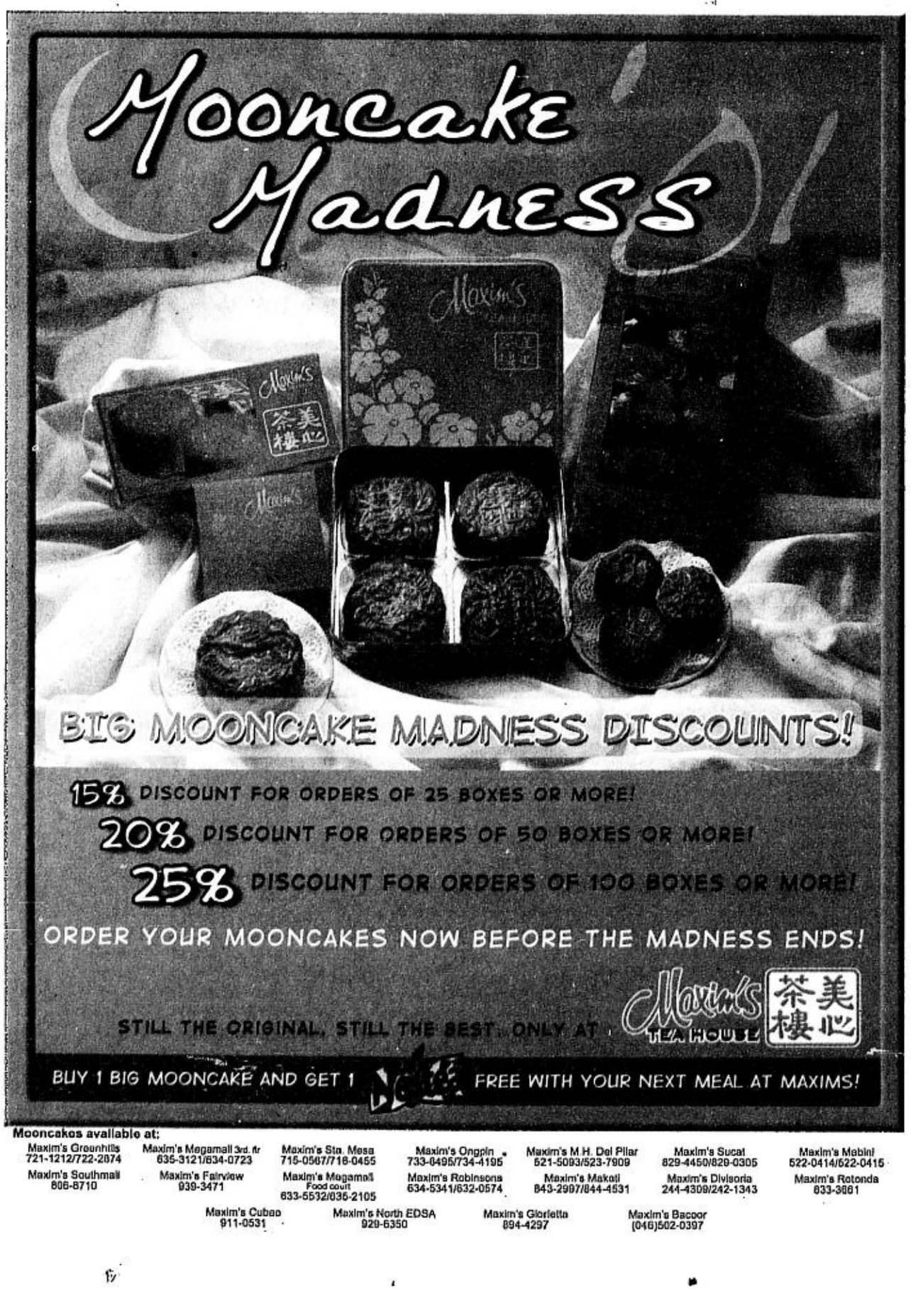
PARDO sisters, Maritess and Maribel

TIM Yap and Tessa Prieto-Valdes and TJ Trinidad

ROSA de Sequerra

HANS Montenegro

GABBY Panlilio



Mooncakes available at:

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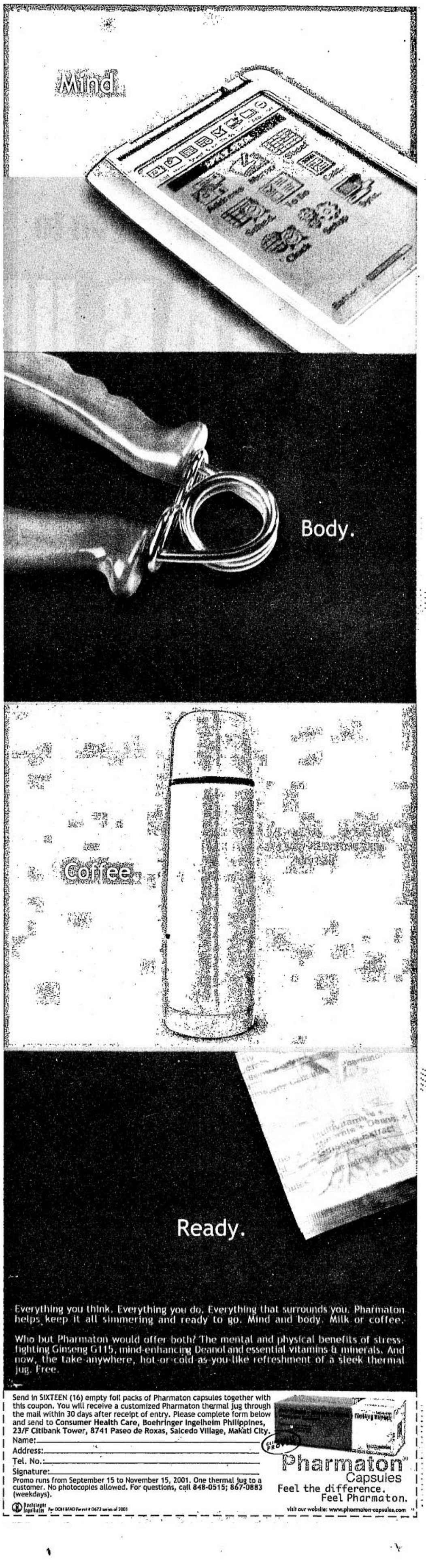

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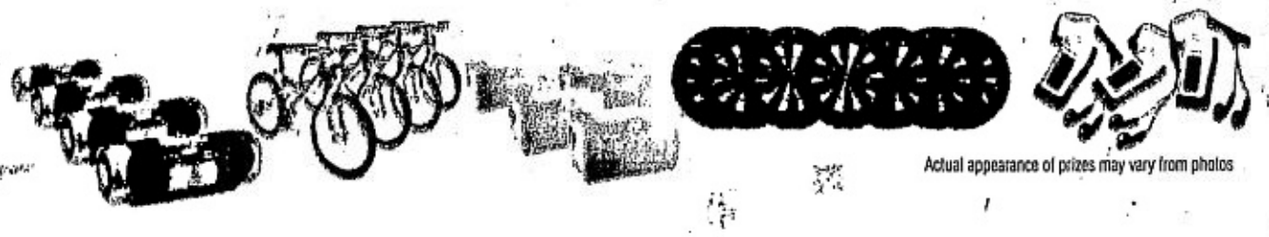
HARROWS DART SETS • SONY SPORTS RADIOS
TOBY'S BILLIARDS CUE STICKS WITH CASE



Actual appearance of prizes may vary from photos

Joining is easy!

1. Simply buy a brand new **Alcatel One Touch 300 phone kit simlocked to the SMART Network via Piltel's Talk 'N Text"** from authorized Talk 'N Text dealers and outlets. Each purchase entitles you and the seller to a joint raffle coupon which can be found inside the phone kit.

2. Completely fill-out the raffle coupon with the ff. information: your name, address, signature, Talk 'N Text mobile number and the IMEI number found inside the unit. The "seller" should also fill-out the "seller" portion with his/her name, contact number, signature, dealer or store name and address.

3. Drop the raffle coupon portion at any dropbox located in designated TSI, SMART or MOBILINE outlets nationwide.

4. Promo period is from August 8, 2001 to October 15, 2001.

5. There will be two preliminary draws and one grand raffle draw. The first preliminary draw will be held on September 3, 2001; the second on September 28, 2001; and the grand draw on October 18, 2001. All draws will be held at 3PM on the said dates at the 27/F, Smart Tower, 6799 Ayala Avenue, Makati City. A DTI representative will be present during all the draws.

6. Deadline for submission of entries will be the closing of store hours on the following dates:
   For the 1st preliminary draw: August 30, 2001
   For the 2nd preliminary draw: September 23, 2001
   For the grand draw: October 15, 2001

7. Both the buyer and seller get a chance to win prizes.

8. The prizes for the buyers are as follows:

Grand Draw:
1st Prize : One (1) MITSUBISHI Adventure Super Sport
2nd Prizes : Two (2) Billiards Packages
3rd Prizes : Three (3) JVC Boomboxes
4th Prizes : Three (3) SHIMANO Mountain Bikes
5th Prizes : Four (4) COLEMAN Coolers
6th Prizes : Twenty (20) NIKE Steel Agent Super Watches
7th Prizes : Ten (10) NIKE TW9-Tiger Woods Eyewear
8th Prizes : Ten (10) NIKE Uniballer Bags with Leather Basketball
9th Prizes : Five (5) HARROWS Dart Sets
10th Prizes : Fifty (50) SONY Sports Radios
11th Prizes : Twenty (20) TOBY'S Billiards Cue Sticks with case

First Preliminary Draw:
1st Prize : One (1) Billiards Package
2nd Prize : One (1) JVC Boombox
3rd Prize : One (1) SHIMANO Mountain Bike
4th Prizes : Three (3) COLEMAN Coolers
5th Prizes : Ten (10) NIKE Triax Junior Watches
6th Prizes : Ten (10) NIKE Interchangeable Eyewear
7th Prizes : Ten (10) NIKE Duffel Bags
8th Prizes : Five (5) HARROWS Dart Sets
9th Prizes : Twenty-five (25) SONY Sports Radios
10th Prizes : Twenty (20) TOBY'S Billiards Cue Sticks with case

Second Preliminary Draw:
1st Prize : One (1) Billiards Package
2nd Prize : One (1) JVC Boombox
3rd Prize : One (1) SHIMANO Mountain Bike
4th Prizes : Three (3) COLEMAN Coolers
5th Prizes : Ten (10) NIKE Triax Junior Watches
6th Prizes : Ten (10) NIKE Interchangeable Eyewear
7th Prizes : Ten (10) NIKE Duffel Bags
8th Prizes : Five (5) HARROWS Dart Sets
9th Prizes : Twenty-five (25) SONY Sports Radios
10th Prizes : Twenty (20) TOBY'S Billiards Cue Sticks with case

9. The prizes for the sellers are as follows:

Grand Draw:
1st Prize : P300,000.00 (1 winner)
2nd Prizes : P30,000.00 (2 winners)
3rd Prizes : P3,000.00 (125 winners)

First Preliminary Draw:
1st Prize : P30,000.00 (1 winner)
2nd Prizes : P3,000.00 (85 winners)

Second Preliminary Draw:
1st Prize : P30,000.00 (1 winner)
2nd Prizes : P3,000.00 (85 winners)

10. The names of the raffle draw winners will be announced via major national newspapers. Winners will also be notified via registered mail and text message to the Talk 'N Text mobile phone number listed on the raffle coupon.

11. Prizes are not convertible to cash.

12. All prizes are tax-free. Alcatel Philippines, Inc. will shoulder the 20% tax of prizes with values exceeding P10,000.00.

13. During the preliminary draws, each person can only win once. If a name is drawn more than once, the winner gets the prize with the higher value. Winners of the first preliminary draw will be excluded from the second draw. However, non-winners will be eligible to join.

14. In the grand draw, all winning and non-winning entries in any of the preliminary draws will be included and eligible to win any of the prizes.

15. Prizes can be redeemed within sixty (60) calendar days from announcement and receipt of notification. Winners can claim their prizes from the nearest branch of Acabar Marketing International stated on the registered mail upon presentation of the following: the winning raffle stub, valid ID with picture and signature (e.g. driver's license, passport, school ID, company ID), Alcatel OT300 unit and Talk 'N Text SIM Card that match those indicated in the raffle coupon. Prizes unclaimed within 60 days from receipt of notification will be forfeited with prior approval from the DTI.

16. The winner of the Mitsubishi Adventure can get the original certificate which will be awarded at the nearest Mitsubishi dealer. The winner will shoulder the cost of LTO registration and other documentation.

17. Employees of Alcatel Philippines, Inc., including their manpower and personnel; PILTEL/SMART/TSI and their advertising and merchandising agencies, as well as participating outlets and dealers, including their relatives up to the second degree of consanguinity or affinity are disqualified from joining the raffle intended for buyers.

See flyers for details.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2360, Series of 2001

Available at authorized Talk 'N Text dealers and outlets nationwide

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Available at all Mercury Drug outlets and leading drugstores nationwide.
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Picture-pretty wedding for artist's daughter

THE NEWLYWEDS. Gisella Olmedo and Rev Araneta

By Bettina Olmedo

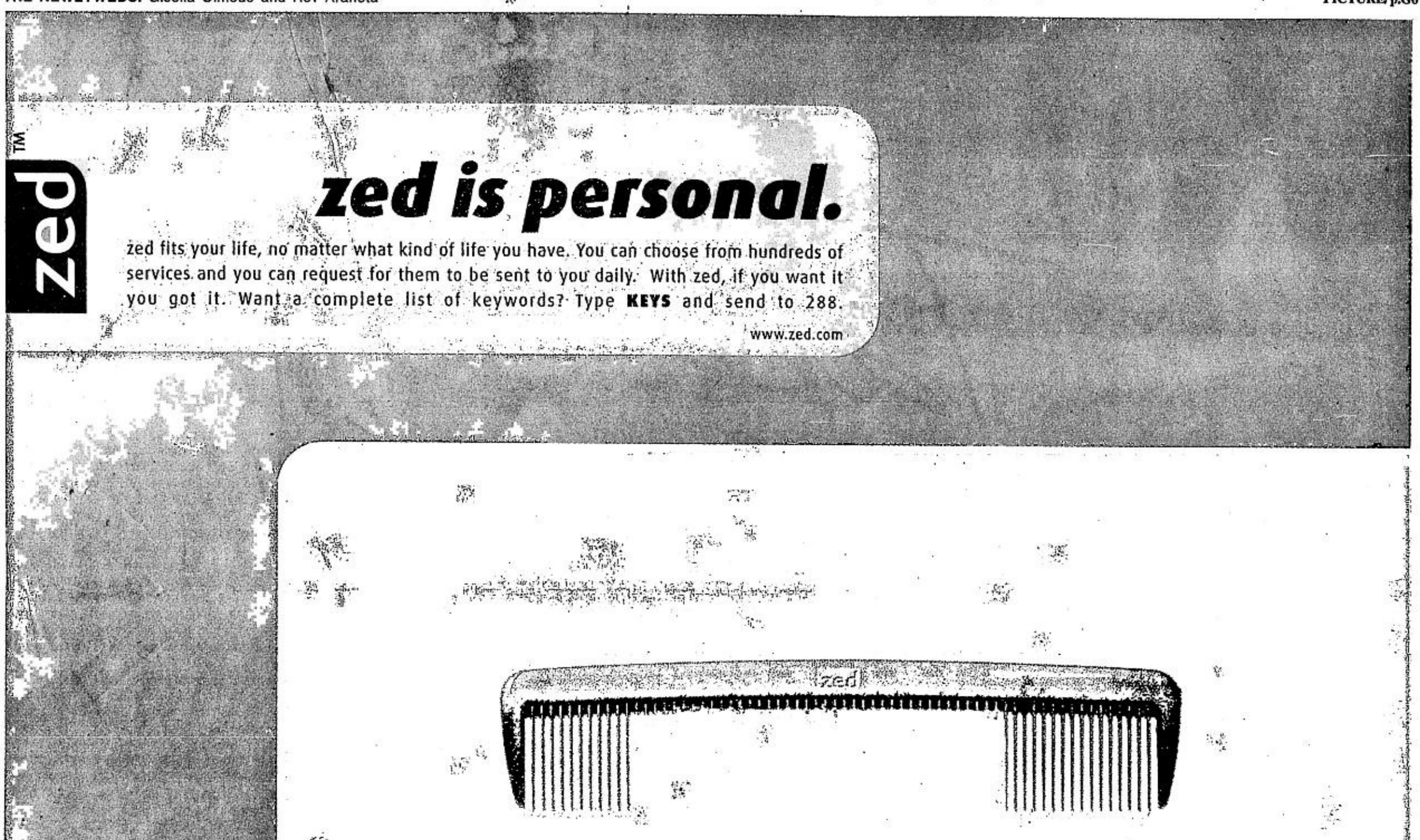
THE WEDDING was like a painting by Renoir... with the shimmering brilliance of impressionistic colors... flowers and entourage blending into a pretty canvas... bridesmaids drifting by like pink clouds of cotton candy, light and evanescent as a dream... the bride, a picture of ethereal loveliness.

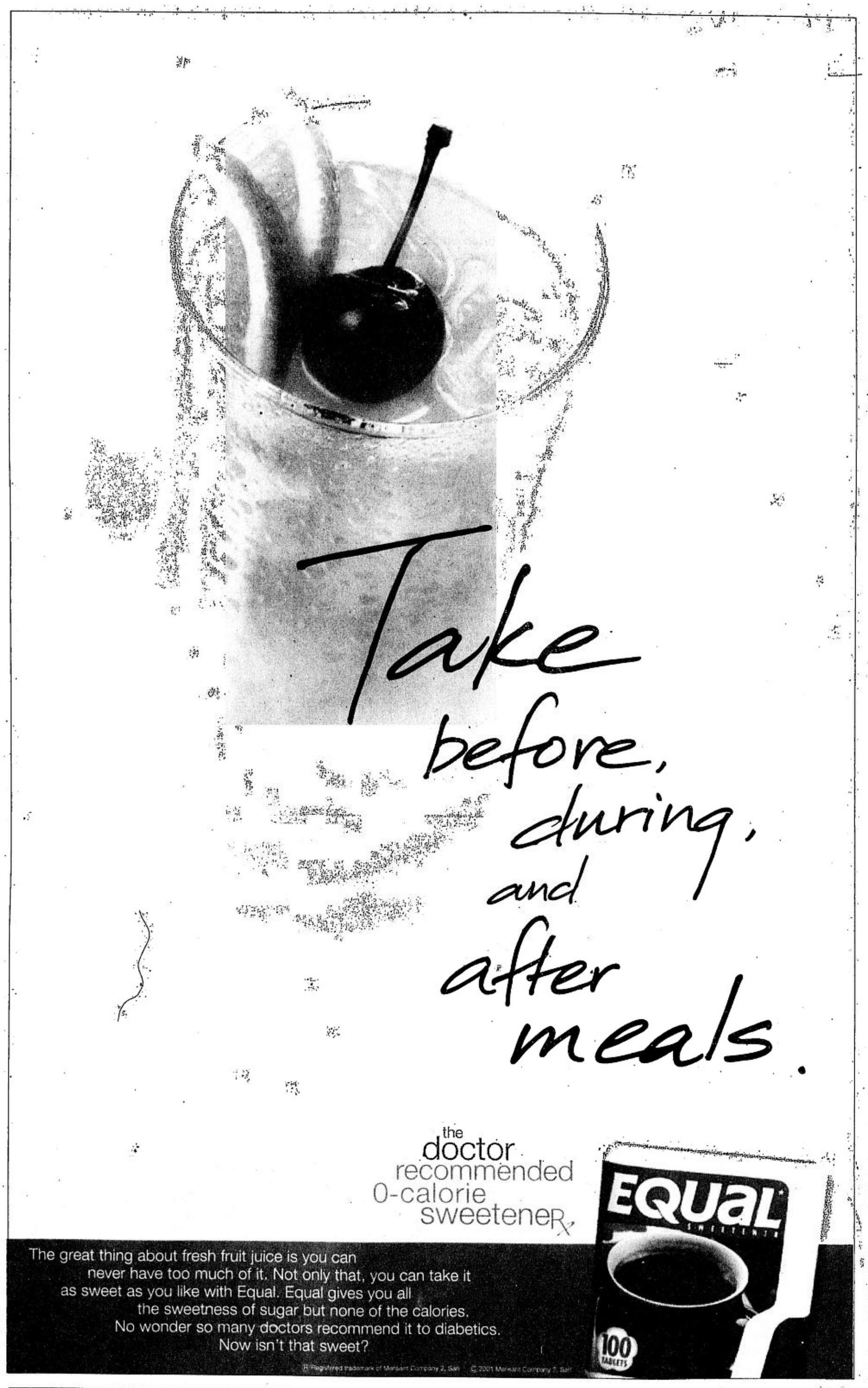
The bride was my daughter, Gisella Olmedo, and the groom was Rev Araneta. The two seemed to have been matched by Divine Providence, their courtship orchestrated by someone up there as their lives were intertwined by spiritual events such as bible study meetings and religious services.

The wedding had a travel motif, in keeping with the airline connections of both bride and groom—my daughter Gisella is with Asiana Airlines while my son-in-law Rev is with Lufthansa. The wedding program was printed at the back of postcards showing cities like Paris, Los Angeles and Munich—the site of my daughter's memorable trips.

Makati Shangri-La's Rizal Ballroom provided a romantic setting for the wedding with little

PICTURE/p.G6





the doctor recommended 0-calorie sweetener Rx

The great thing about fresh fruit juice is you can never have too much of it. Not only that, you can take it as sweet as you like with Equal. Equal gives you all the sweetness of sugar but none of the calories. No wonder so many doctors recommend it to diabetics. Now isn't that sweet?

EQUAL SWEETENER 100 TABLETS

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She is reluctant to accept her boyfriend's marriage proposal

DEAR Tita Dulce,

My boyfriend of three years passed the bar and is now employed in a law office. In the past we were just like close friends, with nothing really serious. He was concentrating on his studies and when he was reviewing for the bar exam, he would just phone me. Now that he has a regular job, he is again concentrating on his duties. He just sends me text messages. I live in the province and he in Quezon City.

However, last week, I got a surprise. When he came to see me, he proposed marriage. He told me he is now ready to start a family. I know that it is not just his salary he lives on because their family is also into big business. But with the way he lives—serious—do you think he is really ready for marriage? He suggested getting married by Christmas, and his parents are just waiting for our decision so they can come for the *pamamanhikan*.

LIVE AND LET LIVE

Tita Dulce

I know I should be very happy with what is happening in my life, but why do I feel some hesitation? I know I love him, and I do not doubt his love. Thank you for giving me time.

JANET

You should be happy now, and thank the Lord for all your blessings. When he was concentrating on his studies, that was a plus for you. There is this saying: love in a man's life is only a part; it is a woman's whole existence. You are lucky your boyfriend is not a womanizer. He concentrates on what he has to do, not dilly-dallying.

Prepare your mind for your future together. Both of you should attend a Catholic Engaged Encounter (CEE) weekend at the Manresa Retreat House in Del Monte, QC. The CEE is a marriage preparation program held in a weekend format. The two of you can examine your lives through communication. "It is a time for couples to share their feelings, hopes, disappointments, joy, frustrations and to do so openly and honestly in a face-to-face, heart-to-heart setting designed to enrich their relationship with each other and with God." I have quoted what the program is, reminding you that a "wedding is a day...a marriage is a lifetime."

The program is open even to non-Catholics; it is conducted every last weekend of each month. Since he wants to be married before Christmas, choose these dates, Sept. 28-30, Oct. 26-28 or Nov. 23-25. If he agrees to attend, you can call any of the following for more information: Fr. Dave Clay at 523-3361; Dado and Cory Hipolito at 810-0222; Vinchy and Elisha Lirios at 721-4153; San and Marin Uy at 256-5275; Robbie and Bernadette Fabian at 829-6182, or Chin and Lorna Fernandez at 744-3209.

To quote comments of those who attended CEE: 1)"Thank you for the fabulous weekend. I really liked the time spent alone with my fiancée"; 2)"We have become more caring, honest and open to each other" and 3) I came a little skeptical, being raised a Lutheran. I thought the Catholic religion would be emphasized in an uncomfortable way. I thank you for making non-Catholics feel welcome."

Bothered with psoriasis

YOU may have been asked this a hundred times, but please, may I have the name, contact number and address of a specialist on psoriasis? Thank you and more power.

LUZ

Don't you know a doctor who can recommend you to one? There are many dermatologists in our country today who can help you. Call up the hospital nearest you for information, or scan the telephone directory for hospitals so you can choose. I'm stating here your e-mail: luzsoque@yahoo.com. Expect some answers. Good luck!

E-mail the author at titadulce@netscape.net or send letters to P.O. Box 2353, Makati CPO 1263 Makati City, or PDI, Chino Roces Avenue corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati City

We need laws that protect air passengers

FREQUENT flight delays and cancellations are not the only hassles air travelers have to put up with. Add the following to the growing list of complaints: noisy airports, lost luggage, long wait to check in, confirmed reservations that are not honored.

And what about those old planes that shake and rattle when they take off and land? Our flight on PAL last week to General Santos was a case in point. The plane shook so badly as it prepared to take off that one of the overhead compartments opened up. Had it been fully loaded, bags would have toppled on the poor guy seated below. We've seen this happen before to Gunless Society founder Nandy Pacheco on a flight to Bangkok.

On top of that, while the plane shook and rattled, the cabin reeked of toilet odor and aviation fuel. Cigarette smoking on board was banned for the very reason that it polluted cabin air and posed serious threats to the health of travelers, particularly those who are frequently exposed like flight attendants and pilots. Aviation fuel cannot be safer than cigarette smoke.

Evidently, standards and regulations for air passengers' safety have yet to be put in place. We doubt if airplanes are even monitored regularly to check the levels of pollution and ventilation inside the cabin.

Applying for a refund, and hoping against hope to get one's money back, is one of the aggravations experienced by airline customers Vic del Fierro of the Pepsi 349 controversy and Lorenzo Camacho of San Jose, California.

Both couldn't get their refund because the airline companies claimed that the money had already been turned over to the customers' travel agencies. Unfortunately, their travel agencies had either closed shop or relocated.

THE CONSUMER

Marietta Velasco Giron

Dana Wynter G. Datan of Mandaluyong City wrote: "Using my Asian credit card, I returned a ticket I bought from PAL. At that time, Asian Bank had been acquired by Metrobank and cardholders were notified about changes in the card. The PAL credit memo was dated March 2. However, it has been several months and the transactions with Asian banks have yet to be traced. I have sent several letters of request, furnished them with PAL credit memo."

We hope Metrobank's customer service people will finally trace the missing transaction. Datan wrote her letter last June 29.

An 18-hour delayed flight

A badly delayed flight to Bangkok last May 10 spoiled the holiday for 17 members of Reckitt Benckiser Phils. Kris Bautista and her group were originally booked for the 2:40 p.m. TG flight that was reset two hours later due to tire trouble. By 5 p.m., the rescheduled boarding time, they learned that the flight was reset for 2 a.m. They were advised to check in at Heritage Hotel and expect the wake-up call at midnight.

Just when they were checking out of the hotel after midnight, they were told to return to their rooms as there was another problem with the aircraft. For the third time, their flight was rescheduled at 5:30 p.m. the next day. After more than 24 hours, they were finally airborne.

"We were tired, sleepless, grimy and were still wearing the same clothes after 18 hours. On top of that, a stewardess was rude to us," Bautista wrote to us. An apology would at least make up for the harrowing experience, but the Thai Airways people was nonchalant about the whole matter," Bautista added.

Cell phone started the trouble

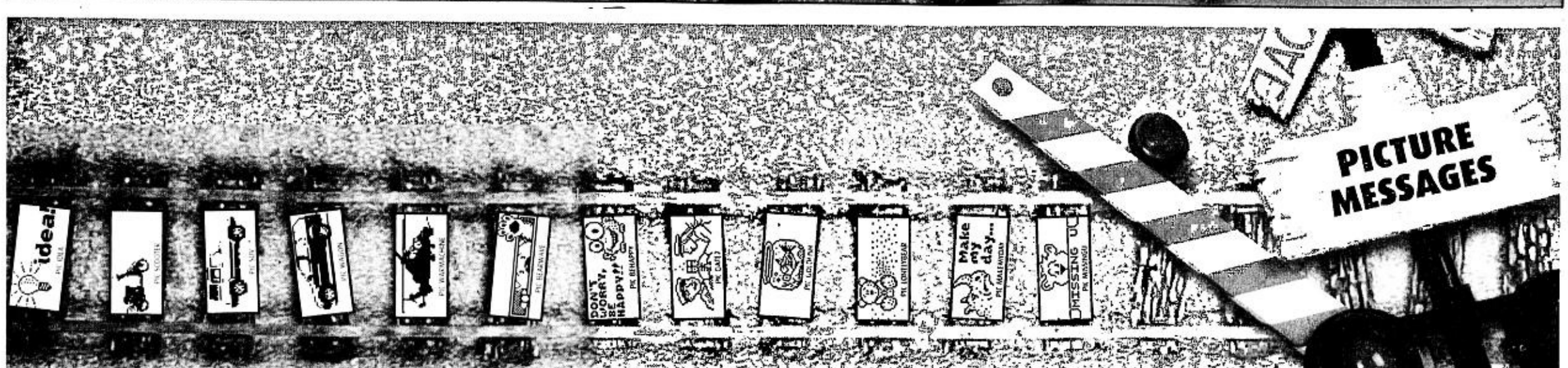
Publisher Jose Norberto Luis "Jobert" Romualdez complained of having been "badly treated and discriminated by Qantas Airways." His trouble obviously started when his cellular phone rang as he was arranging bags in the overhead compartment. He wrote that at that point, the stewardess yelled at him to turn off his phone immediately because she said it was interfering with the aircraft's communication system. "I was humiliated in front of stunned passengers," he complained.

He got into deeper trouble later. According to the sequence of events he wrote us, he was first accused of assault when he touched the hand of the stewardess to call her attention and tell her she didn't have to shout and be rude. Then the customer service manager came and told him to surrender his boarding pass. In another few minutes, a member of the ground crew fetched him and told him "We are not letting you board the plane."

After that, the airport and federal police brought him to their office for the audio-video interrogation while other passengers on board were being interviewed. It delayed the flight by 30-45 minutes.

Romualdez wrote: "Because of this unfortunate incident, I missed my scheduled business meetings with foreign clients and sales agents in Manila. I have suffered so much emotional and mental stress, trauma, wasted productive time, paranoia and low self-esteem."

E-mail the author at mariettagiron @hotmail. com.



Milestones

We're accepting announcements of weddings, engagements and debuts. Please send the following typewritten information: names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, gown designer and other related information. Readers can send sketches of gowns and pictures of the couple at least two weeks before the wedding. This will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the sender.

TAN-AFRICANO

Raymond Tan, son of **Reynaldo** and **Hermogena Tan**, and **Donna Africano**, daughter of **Rosendo** and **Elizabeth Africano**, will exchange wedding vows on Sept. 30 at the Manila Cathedral. The bride will wear an ivory duchess satin scoop-necked sheath gown with an A-line skirt and detachable cathedral train with sequined flowers, iridescent cut-glass beads and minute nacre pearls designed by **Jontie** and **Nicky Martinez.**

CO-TAN

Nixon Co and **Go Grace Tan** will exchange vows on Nov. 17 at San Agustin Church. Reception will be held at the Heritage Hotel Manila.

CARPO-DUGA

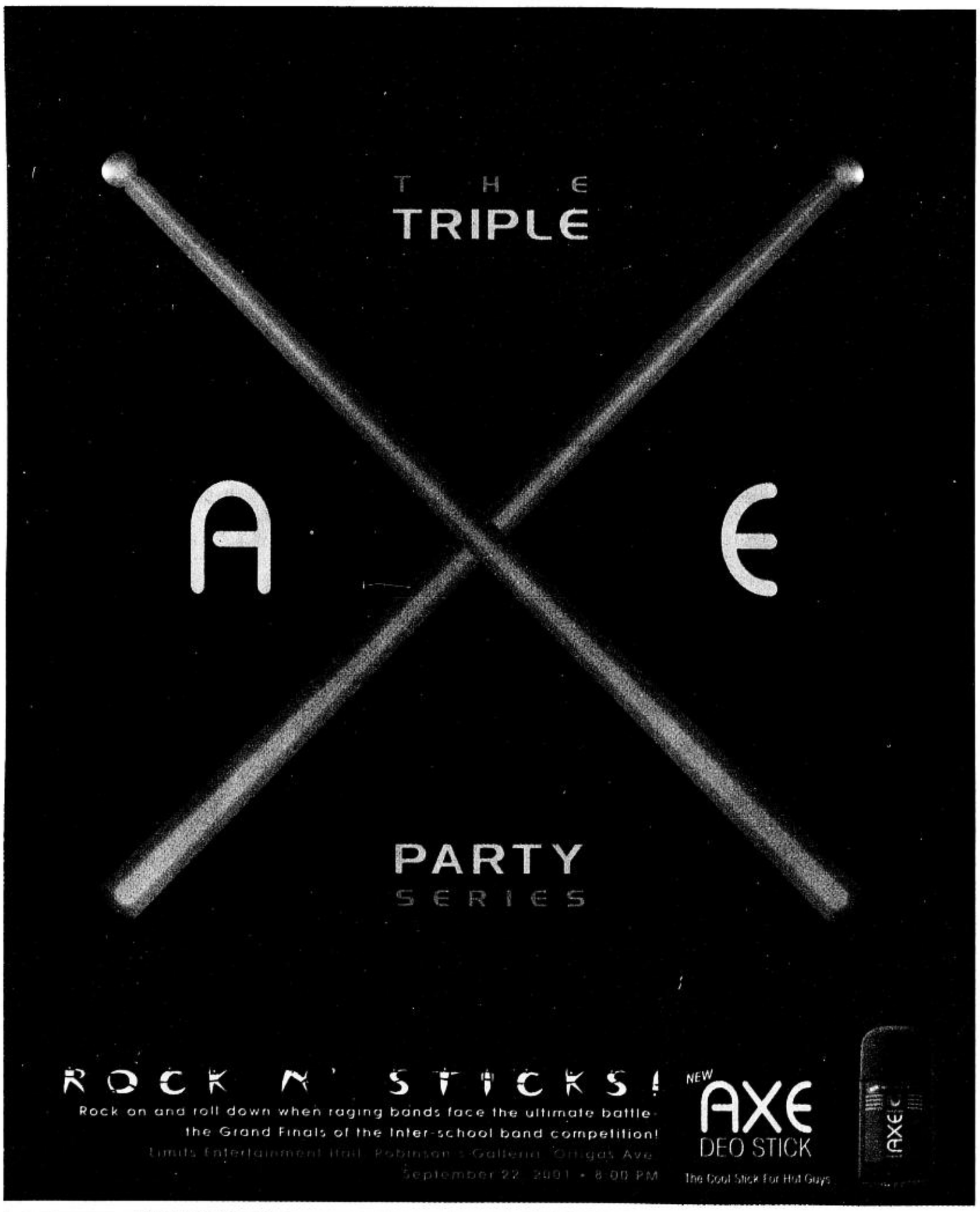
Edward Carpo, son of **Leon** and **Aurora Carpo**, will exchange marriage vows with **Jaycee Duga**, daughter of **Norberto Jr.** and **Celsa Duga**, on Sept. 29 at Sta. Rosa de Lima Parish Church. Rev. Fr. **Reynaldo Hayag** will officiate. Reception will follow at Belle Reve Country Club, Sta. Rosa, Laguna. The bride will wear an **Edward Teng** creation.

NEWCOMB-NICOLAS

Anne J. Nicolas, daughter of **Vicente** and **Evelyn Nicolas**, will tie the knot with **Fernando Jose Newcomb**, son of **David** and **Yvonne Diana Maria Newcomb**, on Sept. 28 at The Banyan Tree, Bang Tao Bay, Phuket, Thailand.

Theme of the wedding is "Wedding by the Lagoon" with gold and copper as color motif.

The bride will wear an **Edwin Uy** creation, a strapless two-piece gown in ecru shantung with accent beadworks on the bodice and hemline, and a detachable shawl.



MEJICA-MASCARIÑAS

Marianito N. Mejica, son of **Mariano** and **Teresita Mejica**, will tie the knot with **Zennia G. Mascariñas**, daughter of **Zenaida Mascariñas** and the late **Jim Mascariñas**, on Sept. 22 at the Manila Cathedral. Reception follows at the Diamond Ballroom of the Manila Diamond Hotel.

DEL ROSARIO-DIAZ

Dr. **Dante Teodore B. del Rosario**, son of **Manrico** and **Gloria del Rosario**, and Dr. **Paula Michelle H. Diaz**, daughter of **Bayani** and Dr. **Paz Diaz**, exchanged marriage vows Feb. 10 at the Shrine of Jesus in Pasay City.

MOORSEL-RELOS

Vincent Gabriel van Moorsel, son of **Rudolf** and **Thea van Moorsel**, married **Margarite V. Relos**, daughter of **Pedro** and **Cesaria Relos**, on Aug. 5 at the San Agustin Church. Reception was held at the Makati Shangri-La. The bride wore a spaghetti-strapped gown made of ivory shantung silk, embellished with Swarovski crystals, amethysts and rhinestones of different sizes, designed by **Rollie H. Graza** of Balay Pagdaitan.

LAZARO-BABISTA

Angelito Lazaro Jr., son of **Angelito** and Gov. **Teresita Lazaro**, exchanged vows with **Ma. Carmen Babista**, daughter of **Rosendo** and **Gloria Babista**, on Dec. 18, 2000 at the Abbey Church of Our Lady of Montserrat (San Beda Church). The bride wore a **Pilar Pineda** creation.

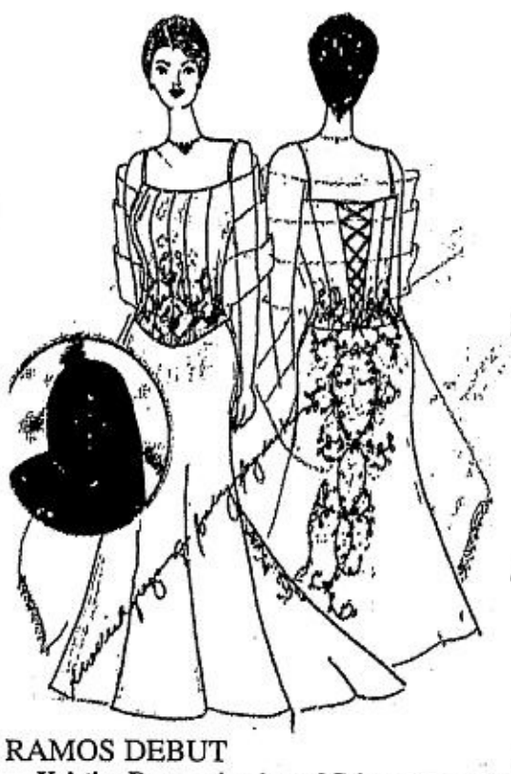
Milestones

JACINTO-GARCIA

Isadora P. Garcia, daughter of Mr. and Ms **Rizalito S. Garcia**, and **John C. Jacinto**, son of **Lourdes C. Jacinto**, exchanged vows on Aug. 18 at the Santuario del Santo Cristo, San Juan. Reception followed at the Edsa-Shangri-La Hotel. The entire entourage wore creations of **Faigar Reyes** of Leonard Co.

MANANSALA DEBUT

Kathrina Faye Navarro Manansala, daughter of **Joey** and **Mitcheline Manansala**, celebrated her 18th birthday on July 7 at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Burlingame, California, USA.



RAMOS DEBUT

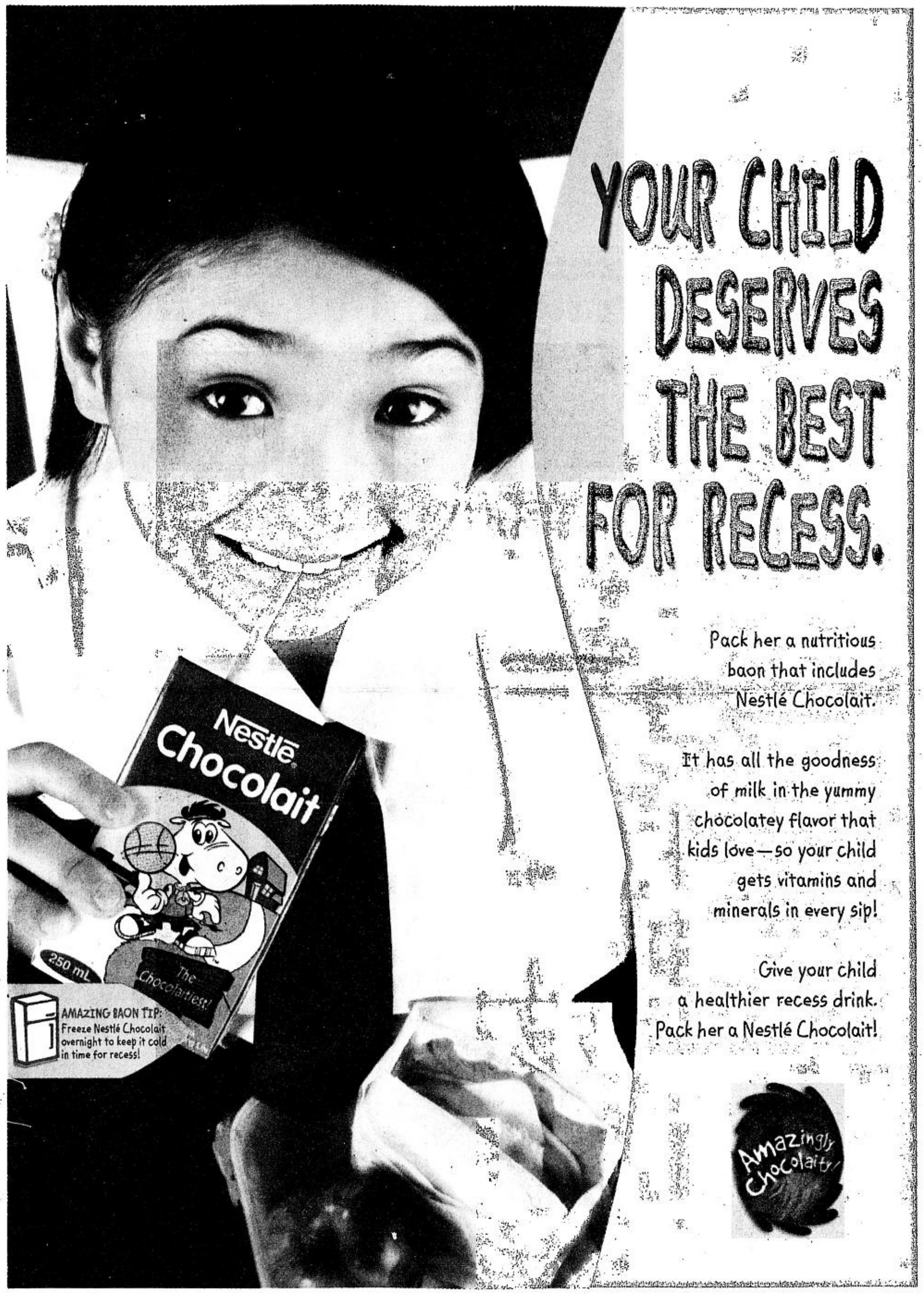
Kristine Ramos, daughter of **Cris** and **Normie Ramos**, will celebrate her 18th birthday on Oct. 27 at the Galleria Room of the Sheraton West Palm Beach Hotel, Miami, Florida, USA. Kristine will wear a *piña jusi* two-piece gown with train, with intricate beadwork by Rollie H. Graza of Balay Pagdaitan.

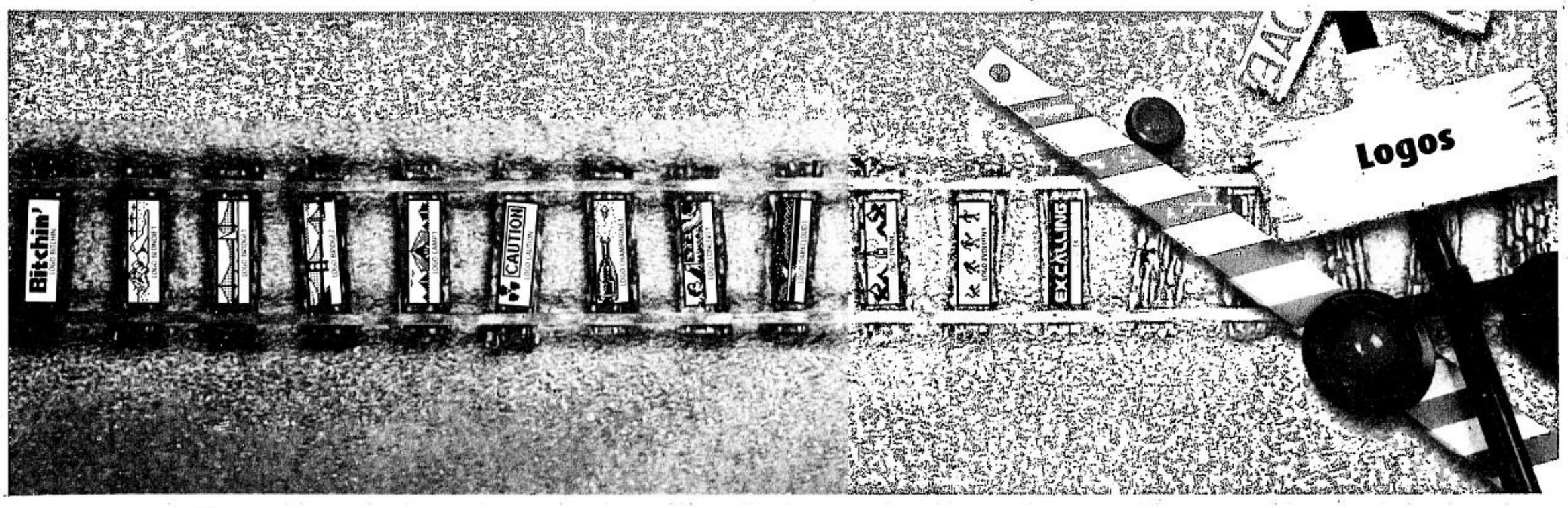
Globelines goes prepaid

GLOBE Telecom, the country's leading full-service telecommunications company, recently launched Globelines Prepaid, a landline service that offers a highly competitive pricing package that will enable subscribers to manage their telephone bills.

Apart from providing opportunities to improve quality and reliability, Globe believes that Globelines Prepaid will attract people from all walks of life who want convenience and more affordable rates. A one-time charge of P1,300 (with free P300 card) will cover for the cost of telephone installation and handset. Rates include: local calls (initial promo) are charged 25 centavos per minute while national direct dial (NDD) calls are levied P3 per minute. For calls to a cellular phone, the cost is P12 per minute while international direct dial (IDD) calls are charged $0.40 a minute.

Globe provides more than just lines. It aims to uplift the quality of life of individuals and organizations, thus delivering the solutions to their communications-based needs. To touch base with majority of the masses, Globe will hold a community project called Konek Ka Dyan in selected barangay town centers in Batangas and the National Capital Region. The project will not only provide information on Globelines Prepaid, but provide entertainment activities as well.





Onib Olmedo's little girl became a bride during rites that he would have cherished

THE BRIDE with bridesmaids Myra Castillo and Ruth Ruiz and maid of honor Francesca Olmedo

THE NEWLYWEDS with the groom's father, Pablito Araneta, and the bride's mother, Bettina Olmedo, during the "giving-away" ceremony. Behind are the two principal sponsors, former Agrarian Reform Secretary Horacio "Boy" Morales and businessman Tonypet Araneta.

Picture-pretty wedding for artist's daughter

(From page G1)

touches giving a uniquely intimate flavor. The paper for the wedding invitation was flown all the way from the United States, a gift from my daughter's very good friend since high school at St. Scholastica's College, Manila—Joanna Mallari. It had the word "love," which made up the entire front page of the invitation. The wording of the invitation was warm and personalized, revolving around the theme "A celebration of love."

Instead of the usual wedding march, the bridal entourage was ushered in by "The Way You Look Tonight" while the bride walked down the aisle to the tune of her favorite song, "When I Fall in Love."

Daddy's little girl

As I saw my daughter walking down the aisle, looking so radiant and lovely in her bridal gown, I felt a little lump in my throat as I recalled how my husband Onib would scoop her up in his arms even when she was already 7 years old. Somehow, he never got over the wonder of being a father.

The bride and my younger daughter, Francesca Joanna, who was the maid of honor, walked unescorted, just as I did as the bride's mother, to emphasize that my husband Onib had already joined his Creator. And yet, somehow, all of us felt that Onib was still very much with us during that wondrous event... his presence was almost palpable... he seemed to be looking down with benign approval at all the proceedings.

TONYPET Araneta and Judy Roxas lead the corps of principal sponsors.

The corps of principal sponsors was led by Tonypet Araneta, who looked handsome and dapper in his signature *barong*, and Judy Araneta Roxas, a picture of classic elegance. The other *ninongs* and *ninangs* were: Horacio "Boy" Morales, former Secretary of Agrarian Reform who now manages his own consultancy firm; Fe Arriola, award-winning author who is writing a book on Onib; Philip Remollo, former mayor of Dumaguete; Silvana Diaz, owner of Galeria Duemila; Pastor Joel Magpantay, Ramona Konzelmann, Mariano Araneta, Marcia Araneta, Lincoln Drilon, Remedios Dy, Antonio Olizon, Lourdes Sangalang, Pershing Golez, Celia Olmedo, Cornelio Ye, Betty Bayona, Lerjun Salvador, Mary Ann Orosa, Enrique Gabriel and Ma. Virginia Duque.

Close family friends came to extend their best wishes to the newlyweds—well-known columnist Teddy Benigno and wife Luz; Chelo Borromeo, who was Gisella's ballet teacher; my classmates from St. Theresa's College, Manila—Chit Roces, Marilen Sidri, Susie Rueda and Marichie Francisco; and Onib's buddies—Manny Arriola, Raul and Thelma Dizon and Ramon Diaz. Gisella's boss from Asiana Airlines, Rene Banzon, came with his lovely wife.

Representatives of the groom's Araneta clan and the Olmedo and Rodriguez clans from the bride's side were there. Rev's parents, Mr. and Ms Pablito Araneta, flew in from Iloilo. Dr. Estrella V. Araneta, Rev's beloved grandma, also came to witness a milestone in the life of her favorite grandson. Rev's grandfather, Mariano Araneta Sr., who was mayor of Barotac Nuevo in Iloilo for 20 years, sent his best wishes because health reasons did not allow him to be there in person. The groom's brothers and sisters were there: Paolo and Rubio, who were junior groomsmen; Sean, Ayla, Megan and Illich; and Frankie, who was a flower girl. Rev's uncles and aunts came with their kids: Nonong and Eileen, Beboy and Cheng, Becks and Nestor, and Corazon and Lito.

On the bride's side, Gisella's aunt Nora Nieva, cousins Marichi Donabue and husband John, Lalie Maglaya and husband Ed, nieces Tin-tin and Michelle, and nephew Edmond flew in from the US to attend the wedding, which was also a reunion for the Rodriguez clan. Gisella's cousin, Mona Konzelmann, came from Paris and was one of the *ninangs*. Her aunt, Lulu Arespacochaga, with daughter Barbara and husband Ne Salanguit, was also there. Another aunt, Gloria Aligada, with daughters Wendy and Betty; and her uncle Toto Rodriguez, with wife Carina and daughter Leah, also graced the occasion.

Onib's brothers and sisters and their spouses also witnessed the event: Lito and Carmen, Polong and Fred Sangalang, Ceci and Jimmy Jali-jali, Joby and Jun Jacinto, Papoose and Tony Olizon, Ramon and Agnes, Jack and Yay, and Chibu Olmedo.

Best man was Rev's best friend, Edison Tan, while bridesmaids were Ruth Ruiz, Myra Althea Castillo, Yael de Guia and Carmela Lucia Olmedo. The junior bridesmaids were Marie Christine Maglaya and Carissa Agnes Olmedo.

Pastor Alvin Supan of the Victory Christian Fellowship in Pasay City officiated at the wedding ceremony. A string ensemble from the renowned Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra played during the dinner, creating a romantic ambience. Professional singers who are good friends of my daughter and son-in-law sang the couple's favorite love songs: Icko Gonzalez, a singer from the Trumpets theater group of Freddie Santos, and Aubrey Bea from the Counterflow group.

Professional wedding planners who coordinated the proceedings as a labor of love—Joji Crisostomo, Antonette Balais and Joyce Pasion—can take credit for the smooth and well-organized event.

The articulate emcee was Ardy Abello, a senior consultant of Businessworks Events, the management and training consultancy firm of Anthony Pangilinan.

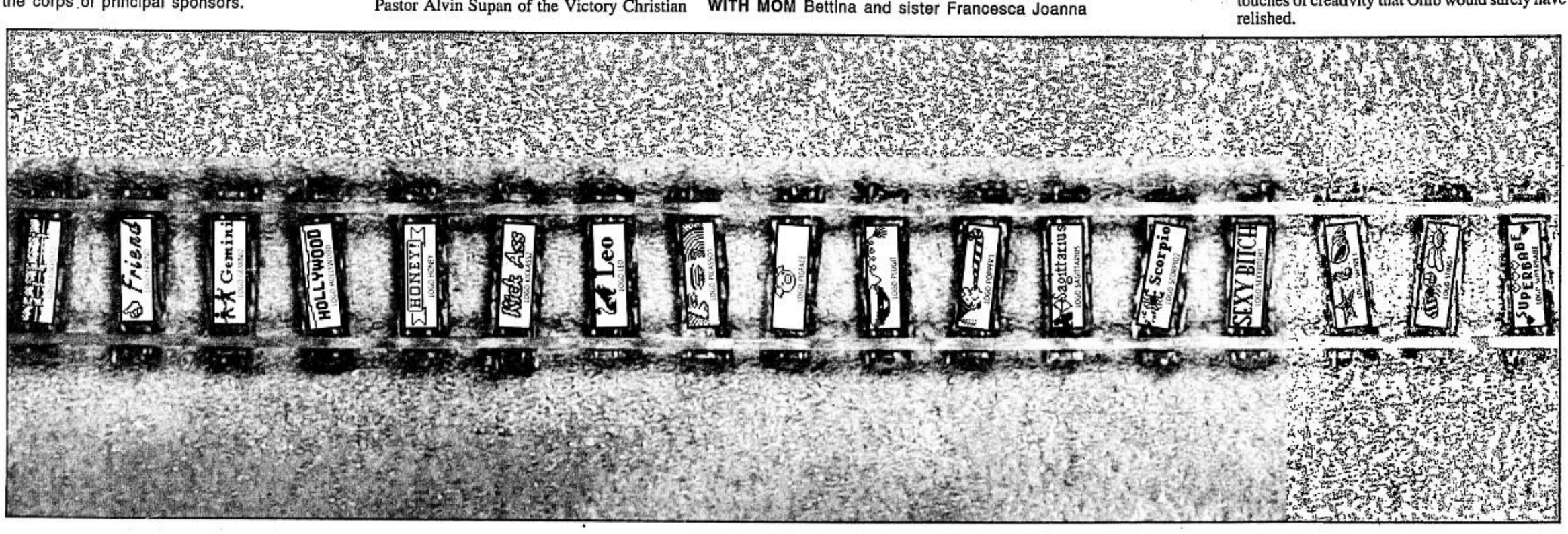
The program during the wedding reception was highlighted by a few speeches. My younger daughter Francesca related details of her sister's courtship, which started with Rev asking her Gisella's ring-finger size in preparation for his proposal. She also narrated the fun experiences and the naughty pranks that Gisella had masterminded during their growing-up years. Maean Araneta said that Gisella was "super-lucky" to have somebody like Rev who was so generous and kind-hearted. I related heartwarming anecdotes from Gisella's childhood, recalling happy memories of my well-loved husband Onib who regarded his children as his most cherished treasures.

The groom's father, Pablito Araneta, sang "All the Things You Are" as a tribute to my late husband.

My daughter's storybook wedding had touches of creativity that Onib would surely have relished.

JUNIOR groomsman Paolo Araneta, maid of honor Francesca Joanna, junior bridesmaids Carissa Olmedo and Tin-tin Maglaya and bridesmaid Luchie Olmedo

WITH MOM Bettina and sister Francesca Joanna



She still yearns for an ex-boyfriend who is already married

LOVE NOTES

Joe D' Mango

DEAR Joe,

I was 21 years old when I worked for an advertising company in Makati. Rob was 31 then and was a senior officer in the same company.

Our company hosted a seminar and I was paired off with Rob in a presentation. I found out that he was gregarious, intelligent and witty. Because we were so compatible, we often went out. We both loved dancing and mountain climbing.

On one weekend Rob and I went fishing, he admitted that he had a live-in partner and a 2-year-old daughter. He explained to me that Helen was just one of his flings. Because of their child, he was forced to live with her. I took it calmly and I did not cry. The relationship blossomed and we became closer than ever. All he asked from me was to give him more time.

One night I found Rob at my doorstep, looking sad. Helen kicked him out of their house with the threat that he'd never see their daughter again. Of course I wasn't elated. I asked him to go home instead and settle things with her.

The next day Rob told me that he and Helen had decided to give it a try. It was then that I realized he was still in love with her. He explained that he was doing this so he could have his daughter. After that meeting, he did not report for work for three days. Helen called me at the office and asked me to go to the hospital. Rob had an overdose of sleeping pills.

What I can't forget were the words he uttered. He told not to admit to Helen that we had a relationship. After one month, I reluctantly ended our relationship. At first he did not agree, but soon enough, Rob conceded. I resigned from my job and accepted a long- standing invitation to have a vacation in Lisbon, Portugal where my aunt lives. After six months, I returned here and learned that Rob and Helen had migrated to Canada.

I'm now 24 years old and have become successful in buying and selling garments/apparel here and abroad. I've been going out with other guys, but it seems that I'm not interested in having a relationship anymore.

I've tried everything to forget Rob, but when will I be free from my love for him?

GINA OF PARAÑAQUE

It seems that love has kept you in the dark and lonely corners of the past. You have been a prisoner of a world you built yourself. A world where Rob always lives and one that incessantly reminds you of warm thoughts of him.

A lot of good people with sincere intentions get hurt for the wrong reasons. Rob could have loved you but it was not enough to make him stand for what he truly felt. Now, beneath that self-assured self is a lonely woman still searching for love and the true meaning of happiness.

You have burdened yourself long enough. You can never forget Rob because you still love and care for him until now. And the harder you try to drive him out of your system the more painful it will get.

You don't have to forget Rob to be able to go on living. He will always be in your heart so just let him stay there. You are lonely because you haven't accepted that Rob is gone for good. Somehow, you still hope that he will be back and that somewhere in time, you will meet again to relive all that has been lost. These thoughts give you hope but they give way for loneliness to creep in and take away your strength.

You can only be free if you let go of the past. Don't cry over the things that could have been because the things that could still be are far more important.

The pain love brings should not make us bitter but better persons. I know that if you truly open your heart, you will find happiness in the arms of someone who will love you and put meaning back into your life.

Bridal fair highlights intricacies of getting married

PLANNING a wedding? The Metropolitan Exhibits Network stages a bridal fair at the 2/L Carousel Court of the Festival Supermall in Filinvest, Alabang until Sept. 26.

This two-week bridal fair highlights the intricacies of getting married from wedding preparations, honeymoon destination to preparing a life and home together. The fair showcases the finest wedding organizers and features the latest in wedding cakes, souvenirs, floral arrangements and suggestions on how to choose your home furnishings and decor as you start your new home. Other activities also include consultations from wedding planners and video and photo organizers.

To top it off, a fashion show will be staged on Sept. 23 featuring the latest bridal creations of the country's top fashion designers.

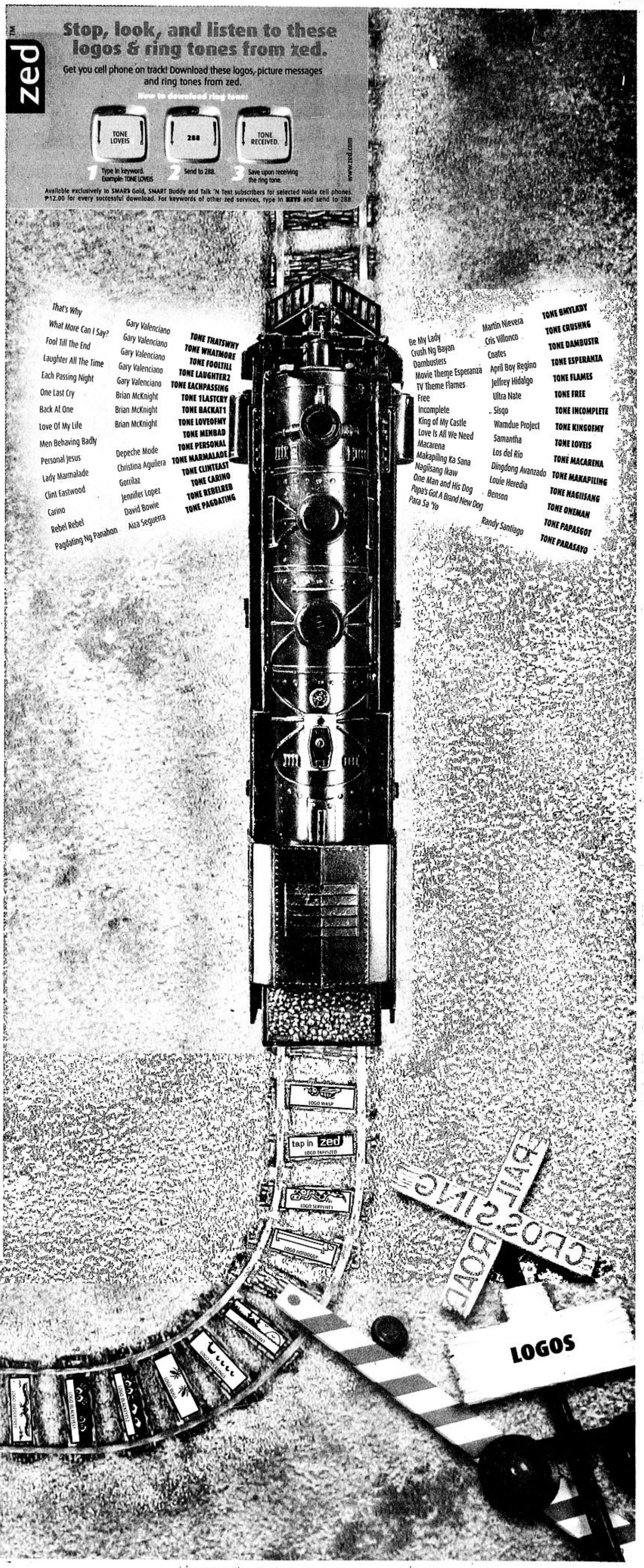
Call Monique of the Leasing Department at 850-3517 local 255 or 257.

Review classes at MSA

MSA Tutorial and Review Center is conducting another set of review classes for high school entrance examination this September until October. Review programs are designed to prepare students for rigorous examinations administered by Philippine Science High School and other top schools. Areas covered include Mathematics, English, Science and Abstract Reasoning.

Classes are held at MSA Review Centers at Prince David Condominium, Katipunan Road, Golden Crescent Mansion, Loyola Heights, QC; Vista Verde Executive Village, Cainta; Filinvest Homes East, Antipolo, and at the MSA Academic Advancement Institute, 315 Katipunan Road, QC.

Call 435-6062.



TRAVEL

ROSARIO A. GARCELLANO, Editor

Bountiful Bulacan

THE PROVINCE of Bulacan has everything going for it. It is the land of patriots—from the more famous Gregorio del Pilar, Marcelo H. del Pilar and Mariano Ponce, to the lesser known nationalists like Esteban Tasi, Felipe Salonga and Simon de Anda.

It is where the Malolos Congress and the second Philippine Republic were established under Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo.

It has also nurtured some of the greatest artists of our time—Nicanor Abelardo, Guillermo Tolentino, Atang de la Rama, Amado V. Hernandez, Jose Corazon de Jesus, Francisco Balagtas, Gerry de Leon and Francisca Reyes-Aquino.

"We are very proud of this rich heritage, and we know that the history of our country will not be complete without a mention of the bravery, creativity and resiliency of the true Bulakeño," said Bulacan Gov. Josie Mendoza-De la Cruz.

Indeed, the province is blessed with both natural and human resources.

Its burgeoning trade and industry is being maximized by its proximity to Manila. The result, according to De la Cruz, is Bulacan's P12,000 monthly per capita income—several notches higher than the national rate of P7,000.

The province has one of the strongest economies in the country, the governor proudly noted.

"I attribute this to the Bulakeño's innate enterprising spirit," she said. "Go through the 24 towns of Bulacan and you will see small businesses on every street, every corner. Bulakeños are most proud of being able to make it on their own, no matter how difficult in the beginning."

Bulacan is also home to master craftsmen who have made the province a destination for both tourists and traders.

The jewel makers of Meycauayan, for example, are sought after here and abroad because of their meticulous workmanship and unique designs. The amazing thing is that most of them are self-taught, with knowledge and skills passed on from one generation to the next.

Then there are the *singkaban* (arch) makers, as exemplified by Kiko Eligio. Fashioning arches from carefully peeled bamboo, *singkaban* makers are in demand especially for Santacruzans, weddings and fiestas.

"Not only here in Bulacan but in Filipino festivities held in major hotels in Manila or abroad," said *Tata* Kiko.

Another folk art for which Bulacan is famous is the making of *pastillas* wrappers.

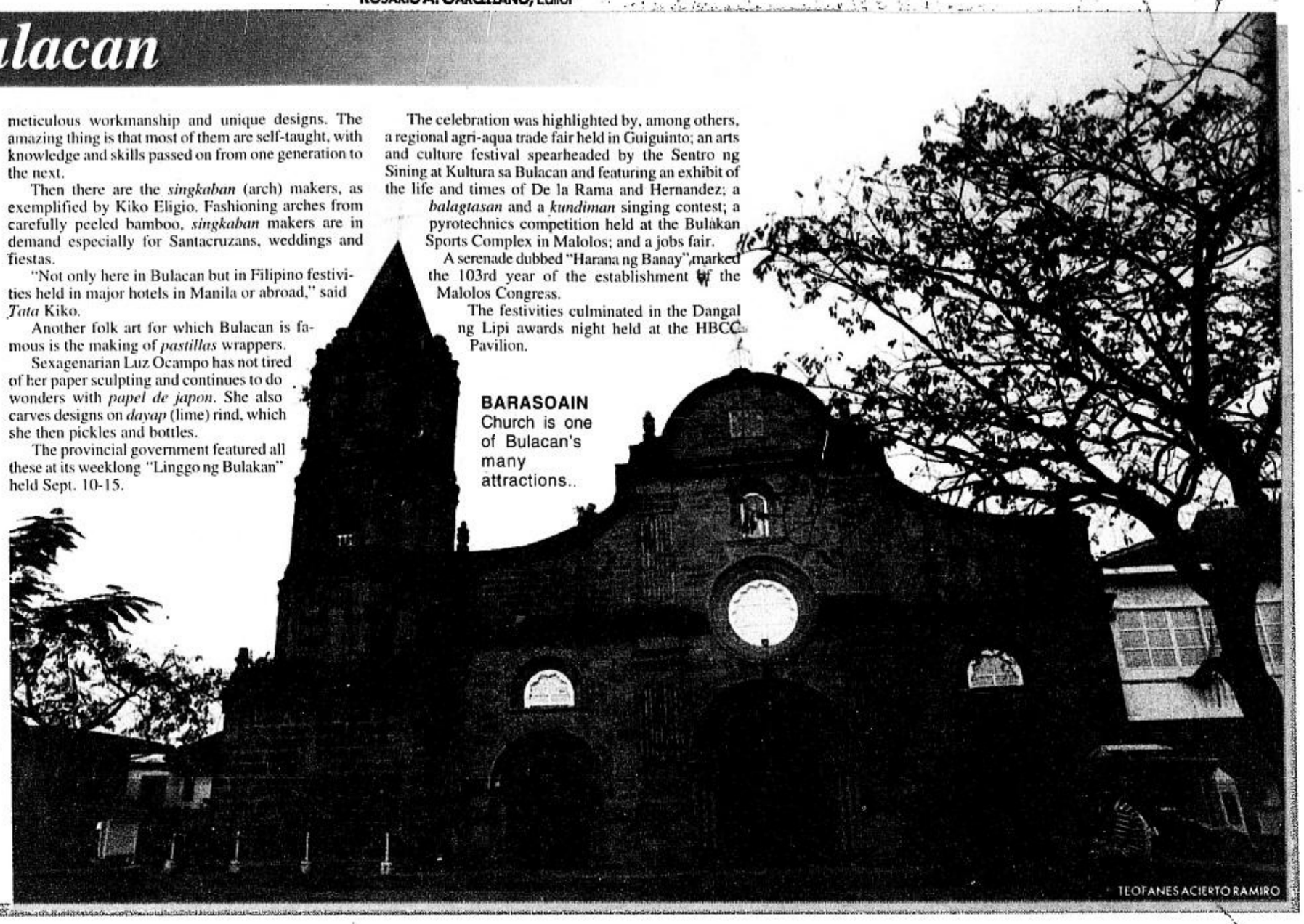
Sexagenarian Luz Ocampo has not tired of her paper sculpting and continues to do wonders with *papel de japon*. She also carves designs on *dayap* (lime) rind, which she then pickles and bottles.

The provincial government featured all these at its weeklong "Linggo ng Bulakan" held Sept. 10-15.

The celebration was highlighted by, among others, a regional agri-aqua trade fair held in Guiguinto; an arts and culture festival spearheaded by the Sentro ng Sining at Kultura sa Bulacan and featuring an exhibit of the life and times of De la Rama and Hernandez; a *balagtasan* and a *kundiman* singing contest; a pyrotechnics competition held at the Bulakan Sports Complex in Malolos; and a jobs fair.

A serenade dubbed "Harana ng Banay", marked the 103rd year of the establishment of the Malolos Congress.

The festivities culminated in the Dangal ng Lipi awards night held at the HBCC Pavilion.



BARASOAIN Church is one of Bulacan's many attractions..

TEOFANES ACIERTO RAMIRO

INTERVIEW: ALICE PADLAN

'Travel is a service business'

This interview was conducted long before the deadly attacks on America on Sept. 11 drastically rearranged the state of the global travel industry.—ED.

BY ANGELINA G. GOLOY

HAVE you heard of "*hubad*"? If she lost me in the maze of short cuts and (dirty) tricks of the travel trade that she was taking me through, the question certainly pulls me back on track.

Alice S. Padlan makes sure I get it straight. "For example, if you go to Japan, you're allowed to work only for six months, as entertainer," she begins. To skirt the law and stay longer, you get a new passport with a different name. "They (entertainers) just send their pictures. It's up to you (travel agent) to get a birth certificate," she continues. The new passport bearing the entertainer's picture is then sent to her. That's *hubad*, a passport not covered by authentic documents.

Padlan also makes sure I get it right: "I don't deal in that kind of thing."

Not everything has a price, declares the feisty president and general manager of Arpex Travel Services Inc. She does not mince words in telling off travel agents or prospective clients with a shady proposition. "Can they bail out my soul?"

Sprightly at 76, she dishes out a mouthful when the subject is the shenanigans in the industry. On the other hand, she won't hesitate to go the extra mile to get things done, even if she can very well delegate the task to her staff. To this widow who would've been a surgeon had her father not objected, service is what it's all about. And she laments that the word has been diluted, distorted, redefined over the years.

"You see that people need help," she says, and goes on to mention that during the war, her family was evacuated from Pampanga to Bataan.

"I walked the Death March...I joined the junior underground. I've seen blood. During (the late dictator Ferdinand) Marcos' time, I joined the Task Force Detainees. If I hadn't been salvaged, that's because God loves me," she declares.

Some may be uncomfortable with her no-nonsense, by-the-book manner. But look, she's been in the business for 40 years, and no one's complaining, except perhaps those who can't get her to bend the rules.

Excerpts from the interview:

How long have you been in the travel business?

Forty years. I was in advertising after the war. A friend told me, they need stewardesses at PAL (Philippine Airlines), let's apply. Okay, I answered, just for fun. We were both accepted.

How was the training?

Rigorous. I didn't expect that. We had daily lectures then exam, lecture, exam. If in the exam you didn't get 80 (percent), you took the make-up (test). Two make-ups, you're out. We were trained for both domestic and international flights—because passenger service is for everybody. If they saw that we deserved to be on the international flight, we did further training. And the training was such that I find passenger service now a little wanting. We had a manual, but over and above that, we had to use gut feel. I notice now, many look at passenger service as the passenger serving them.

You mean the passenger makes it easy for them?

Yes. And I really complain! We're supposed to serve (especially) the non-Filipino (who) is dependent on us. The Filipino can get help, good or otherwise, from another Filipino. If you are honest, (passengers) will praise the country, not you. A cousin in the diplomatic corps would often remind me, Put your best foot forward. You may be the first and last Filipino they meet. When they go back to their country, they can say, "That was a graft-ridden country I went to, dirty and inefficient, but I met one person who was not."

I'm told you yourself once delivered a passenger's plane ticket.

I was on my way home anyway and (the passenger's office) was on the way. Do I need a messenger for that? I'm like that. I'm a very transparent person. If you see me coming, and you like what you see, *salubungin mo* (meet me). If you don't like what you see, *iwasan mo, pero darating at darating ako* (avoid me, but I'll get there anyway). I've always been that way.

Is that ideal in this kind of business?

It's needed, very much needed. You know the temptations you face here? I'll tell you. Frankly, I could've made millions long ago by doing rackets. I think I have more brains than other people. I could've gotten into the immigration racket, sex tours. But that's not my game.

What's the nicest thing about being in this kind of business?

Service. When I give talks to associations of travel agencies, I always say the travel business is a service business. It's for people who like people, who like to be with people, to help people, to serve people. If you just want to make a lot of money, go join a bank—that's where the money is. Here it's a lot of blood, sweat and tears. But it pays off.

I was once asked to help the major religious superiors. We handled 22 congregations, all foreigners. At first, they did not appreciate what we were doing. But later, I heard, one Spanish superior told the others, You know, when you're in a foreign country, if there's somebody who will serve you honestly, sincerely, cherish them.

Now sometimes people walk in here, sent by the congregations, asking for help. These people (who) you don't see every day, who don't give you a pat in the back, they're the ones who talk good about you. Maybe their prayers win me

> 'It's for people who like to help and serve people. If you want to make money, go join a bank'

the big commercial accounts.

You often receive compliments?

Oh, yes, many, from foreigners. I just got a letter from Kathmandu and it said, Thank you for the service, it was good. Once I was (at a supermarket) and someone called my name. I turned around, and the woman said, Don't you remember me? Eleven years ago you helped us. When she left, my daughter asked who she was. Frankly, I don't know, I said. I just do my job the way it should be done and I hope the passengers are happy.

What's the nastiest thing you've heard?

Racism. And I don't take it, I dish it out, too. Once I was asked by the PAL chair to service somebody from the World Bank. I accompanied the visitor, an Englishman, to Immigration—at that time we had to—and (the old building) was dusty. When we came in people weren't very polite. I told the clerk: Excuse me, I have the papers ready. *Paki lang, magpapa*-clear *lang kami* (Please, we just want clearance). Then somebody came over and whispered to the typist, who then pulled out papers from underneath (the pile). The Englishman was mad! What's that? he said. I told the clerk, *Manang, mapapahamak tayo, paki naman ito* (We'll get into trouble, please get this done).

When we were done and waiting for his car—I was going to take the jeepney—the Englishman said, I've never been to a country this graft-ridden. You have mud in your shoes, dust in your eyes. I looked at him and said, Sir, you're on Philippine soil, you're breathing Philippine air. Can you at least be polite? I'm not going to take that from you.

The Englishman later reported to the PAL chair, who summoned me and said, Alice, why did you do that? I said, Excuse me, sir, I will not allow him to insult me in my own country. He said, 'Alice, please, apologize.

At the next board meeting I was called. I stood there and said, Mr. Chair, if I have done something wrong, if I have offended anyone, or if I was out of line, may I ask for an apology from the board?

How is service today different from service years ago?

I've been told (that I should overcharge, say, an immigrant who is leaving anyway). Would you do that (overcharge)? Think about it. If you have three passengers, six will thank you because you gave them (full) attention. I have three generations who keep coming back. It does pay.

In Israel they saw my temper. I had a group of 11 for dinner (but) the waiter gave us a table for six. Then I noticed I had no spoon. I called the waiter and told him, Excuse me, I need some service. Yes, yes, yes, he said, and left. When he passed by the next time, I asked, What happened? Yes, yes, yes, he said again. I told him his yes was useless unless I got a spoon.

When I was ready to eat, the others at the table had finished, and the waiter piled up the (dirty) plates in front of me. Excuse me, will you remove these plates? I told the waiter. He ignored me. So I stood up, picked up the plates and placed them on a counter. (Apparently) the pile was not balanced and the plates fell. *Nataranta sila* (They were in a dither). My tour operator arrived. I said, If this is the way they'll treat us, we'll move to another hotel. Better do something about it!

How often do you accompany passengers on tours?

If they need an escort, I'll accompany them any time. But if I can find an escort, I'll get one with lots of patience. When passengers have complaints, they shouldn't go to the tour operator (but) to me or the escort, and I complain to the operator.

If it's a pilgrimage, you must have a priest. Some (travel agencies) don't take a priest along, to save (money). So when I get to Israel, every other pilgrim group comes to me and asks if they can join our Mass because they don't have a priest with them. You have to provide passengers everything. You have to have back-up plans.

What was it like when you were new in the business?

When I joined the travel business I started with immigration work. I moved to another travel agency, where they made me general manager, and later I went on my own. The airlines supported me. I had my commercial accounts soon after. That was in 1969. I had IATA (International Association of Travel Agencies) membership in five months. IATA gives you the privilege of putting fares and issuing tickets on behalf of the airlines. If you're an IATA member, the airline is behind you.

I got sued once, although it was the fault of the airline (staff). But the airline stood by me all the way.

What did the case involve?

One of those ego-trippers in the airline told me, Alice, your passenger is waitlisted but I'll do something about it. Fine, thank you, I said. Then I was told the passenger didn't get a seat, and I was being blamed because I didn't finalize the booking. The passenger wanted to sue the airline and me for half a million pesos!

I went to the computer. I know how to retrieve records, this ego-tripping girl did not. I found proof that when she tried to "help" the passenger, she punched the wrong key and obliterated the booking.

What was the most challenging request you've had to work out?

Oh, the job is a challenge every day. When your passengers are Muslims, you'd better be sure during Ramadan that you remind the airline what time their meal has to be served—after sunset, according to the sunset in Mecca. As for other passengers, you have to know the difference between Asian and international vegetarian meals. And then there are the Jewish customs...

PADLAN has been in the business for 40 years PHOTOS BY BETOY JOHNSON

What's the best thing that's happened to airline service?

Time and motion economy, because we're computerized. However, people have also become complacent. I often hear the excuse "My system is down." But I believe in manpower. So your system is down, but your brains are not. You can do things manually. There are alternative ways if you want to serve. If you don't want to do it, you will always find an excuse.

Once we had a (power outage) here (in Manila), so I went to Makati and did the work there, on somebody else's computer. I got the information and I printed it out. I don't believe in excuses, I believe in results.

What do you think of electronic ticketing?

(The airlines) should not use it here. Filipinos, I think, are the most intelligent creatures of God—for good or for bad. I wish it could be all for good. Honest! I am doing a lot of back-up work because of that.

What's the one thing that you would like to see happen?

I'd like to see it the way it was before martial law. At that time we had more professionalism and more honesty. Airlines were airlines, not pseudo-travel agents. Tour operators were tour operators. And they worked together, two different associations.

What do you mean?

Now some airlines have shadows—like the GSA. (***Some airlines have offices here, others have a GSA, or general sales agent.***) When you're a GSA, under IATA rules and regulations, you cannot be a travel agent. You have to be independent because you get overriding commission. (***This is over and above what travel agents earn from airlines for tickets sold.***) A GSA can handle several airlines—sales only. No problem, but we've seen a lot of violations, like (the GSAs) are not supposed to commission non-IATA members.

Once, we caught an airline violating a rule. But the airline said, No, that's our GSA. And I countered, according to IATA rules and regulations, your appointing a GSA makes you responsible for all violations. And we were able to prove it.

In the advanced countries, passengers do business on the Internet...

That's why there's a high incidence of credit card fraud there. You just call a number. What if I call your number, and I get the goods and you get charged? Here unless you sign, the goods will not come.

So travel agencies here are important to the airlines...

We now have two associations. I was founding member of one. Travel agents and tour operators under (former Tourism Minister Jose) Aspiras, we were told to merge. Later, politics came up. I left.

One day five of us decided to put up an IATA travel agencies association. (We now have) about 160 members, all professional, all in good standing with IATA. We do not want weak links in our chain. We resolve problems, we clean our own backyard.

How are new generations of travel agents trained?

The new generation doesn't want to be taught. They think they were born knowing everything.

What happens to their standards then?

That's their problem. But as has been said, if you're an honest person and you've been doing things right, you're like a diamond, you'll shine even in the mud.

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REGIONAL GRANTS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

This newly created post presents a unique opportunity to be at the forefront of developing and building on the continued success of Christian Children's Fund (CCF) child-focused development programs in the Asia region.

Responsible for working with CCF National Offices to identify, develop and maintain funding relationships, you will research and raise the necessary funding through major donors to support CCF's work. You will also support the development of partnerships with other NGOs, government and private contractors to promote joint funding approaches where appropriate.

You will have at least three years' experience in successfully securing significant funding from a broad range of sources including bilateral and multilateral donors, or a similar level of experience of awarding funds having worked for at least one such major donor.

With your comprehensive understanding of funders, funding opportunities and application procedures coupled with excellent proposal and report writing skills, you will have the ability to package project submissions with clarity and credibility. Outstanding oral and written English language skills, relevant tertiary qualifications and high level interpersonal/representation skills are also key criteria for the role.

The position is based in Manila with significant periods of time travelling in the region and internationally. An attractive remuneration package will be negotiated according to qualifications and experience.

More details about the position can be viewed at the CCF website:
www.christianchildrensfund.org.
Application letters addressing the criteria outlined here and in the position description together with detailed Curriculum Vitaé should be emailed to Jane Edge, Regional Representative, Asia – send to both **jedge@bigpond.com** and **jedge@ccfusa.org** - by **September 26.**

Candidates selected for interview will be contacted within 3 weeks of the closing date.

The **COMMISSION ON FILIPINOS OVERSEAS** is looking for dynamic young professionals to revitalize its services:

(6) SENIOR EMIGRANT SERVICES OFFICER II (SG 18)
Bachelor's Degree in Political Science, Economics, Psychology, Social Science or any related field; very good oral and written communication skills; 2 years relevant experience in research and/or project management; computer literate; and civil service professional.

(4) EMIGRANT SERVICES OFFICER II (SG 15)
Bachelor's Degree in Political Science, Economics, Psychology or any related field; very good oral and written communication skills; experience in research and/or project management preferred; computer literate; and with civil service professional eligibility.

(1) EMIGRANT SERVICES OFFICER I (SG 11)
Bachelor's Degree in Political Science, Economics, Psychology or any related field; very good oral and written communication skills; computer literate; and with civil service professional eligibility.

(2) INFORMATION SYSTEMS ANALYST II (SG 16)
Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science, Computer Management, Computer Engineering or any related field; 2 years experience in systems analysis and design and computer programming; knowledge in Visual Basic and SQL is required; very good oral and written communication skills; and with civil service professional eligibility.

(1) COMPUTER PROGRAMMER II (SG 15)
Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science, Computer Engineering, Computer Management or any related field; with experience and training in computer programming, computer systems analysis and design; knowledge in computer hardware preferred; civil service professional.

(1) PERSONNEL/ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER I (SG 11)
Bachelor's Degree in Psychology, Social Science or any related field; relevant experience in HRD employee relations, training and career counseling; very good oral and written communication skills; computer literate; and with civil service professional eligibility.

(1) DRIVER
At least with 3 years experience; with professional driver's license.

Interested applicants may send their comprehensive resumé with 2x2 ID picture, transcript of records and a photocopy of civil service eligibility to:

COMMISSION ON FILIPINOS OVERSEAS
Citigold Center, 1345 Quirino Ave.
cor. South Superhighway, Manila
Or call 561-8317 or 561-8321 (Look for Betty)
E-mail address: cfobdc@info.com.ph

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- Graduate of any Business course preferably with 6 education units
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- Good planning, leadership and management skills
- Proficient in oral and written communication and in MS Office

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- Preferably with teaching experience
- Supervisory or marketing background
- Flexible and hardworking
- Good interpersonal skills

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- Graduates/students of UP, Ateneo, La Salle or Philippine Science
- For Science, Math and Language subject–also foreign languages, accounting and computer subjects

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- Accounting graduate, proficient in bookkeeping
- At least 6 months experience as an accounting clerk
- Computer literate

MARKETING STAFF
- Proficient in oral and written communication
- With marketing experience
- Resourceful, personable and aggressive
- Driving skills a plus

MIS
- Graduate of management information system (MIS) or with MIS experience

IT
- knowledgeable in
  - Hardware/software on LAN installation/ troubleshooting
  - MS ACCESS/ V-BASIC: Application in information database
  - HTML, JAVA SCRIPT, ADOBE Photoshop
  - C++, Website design

HR ASSISTANT
- Graduate of Psychology/Human Resource Mgt.
- With 2 years work experience
- Knowledgeable in all HR facets
- Good in both written and oral communication

PART-TIME OR FULL-TIME OFFICE STAFF/SECRETARY
- College Graduate
- Some work experience
- Pleasing personality

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- Work experience
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Send your comprehensive resumé, transcript of records, and two 2x2 pictures to:
THE HUMAN RESOURCE DEPARTMENT
149 B. Gonzales Street, Loyola Heights, Quezon City

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
DR. JOSE FABELLA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
Lope de Vega Street, Sta. Cruz, Manila
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September 3, 2001

ANNOUNCEMENT OF VACANCY
(Future vacancy, October 2001)

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QUALIFICATION STANDARD

EDUCATION : Masteral Degree
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For interested applicants, please submit your application to the Human Resource Management Officer III.

(Sgd.) **JIYI P. GABALES**
Human Resource Management Officer III

Industrial Galvanizers Corporation of the Philippines

A multi-national firm based in Cavite, engaged in **Galvanizing and Steel Poles Fabrication** is looking for a highly competent individual to fill in a key position in the organization and play a major role in its growth and development.

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- Graduate of Mechanical or similar Engineering Degree
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- Must be a resident of Trece Martires City and other nearby towns

Interested qualified applicants may send their resumé through mail or fax to 046-419-1829 together with transcript of records to the HR & Admin Officer, **Industrial Galvanizers Corporation of the Philippines, Brgy. Conchu Trece Martires City, Cavite**, on or before September 21, 2001. For inquiries, please call 046-419-1837. **We will respond only to short listed candidates.**

MANAGERIAL

URBAN PROGRAM FOR LIVELIHOOD FINANCE & TRAINING (UPLIFT)

A Filipino Non-Government Organization specialized in Micro-Finance with community-based programs in Caloocan, Manila, Quezon Cities and Bulacan is in need of:

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S/he will supervise and coordinate all the activities of one program while maintaining the spirit of UPLiFT.
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- ❑ Broad exposure to micro-finance activities or at least social programs (field & financial analysis)

2 ACCOUNTANTS based in Quezon and Bulacan cities (ref. ACC)
- ❑ Accounting graduate and computer literate
- ❑ 22-30 years old
- ❑ Interest in micro-finance and banking

1 JOB HUNTING TRAINER based in Quezon City (ref. JHT)
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- ❑ Must be a Psychology Graduate and computer literate
- ❑ With good interpersonal communication, flexible and autonomous

2 STAFF TRAINERS (ref. ST)
- ❑ Must be a graduate of any Social Sciences Course
- ❑ With experience in designing and conducting trainings
- ❑ 1 of the positions requires regular traveling in nearby provinces

1 TRAINING MANAGER (ref. TM)
- ❑ Based in Caloocan with regular travels in Manila, Quezon City and Bulacan
- ❑ Graduate in any Social Sciences Course and computer literate
- ❑ Experience in supervision, in designing and conducting trainings
- ❑ Flexibility and creativity

1 LEGAL ASSISTANT based in Caloocan City (ref. LA)
S/he will assist the management on labor and corporate legal matters.
- ❑ Must be a graduate of any Law Courses
- ❑ Experience with NGO is an advantage
- ❑ Autonomous, with a sense of organization and synthesis

1 SOCIAL WORKER based in Caloocan City (ref. SW)
S/he will participate in developing our new social program
- ❑ Must be a **licensed Social Worker** and computer literate, fluent in English
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- ❑ Creative; computer-savvy in MS Windows applications (Word, Excel and Powerpoint)

CORPORATE ACCOUNTANT (CA)
- ❑ Male or Female, 21-25 years of age, graduate of Bachelor of Science in Accountancy from a reputable school
- ❑ With at least 2 years work-related experience
- ❑ Knowledgeable in Accounting functions such as analysis of accounts (payables and receivables) and preparation of accounts payable vouchers
- ❑ Self-motivated and hardworking; must be a good team-player
- ❑ Proficient with MS Windows applications (Word, Excel and Powerpoint)

Interested parties should send their comprehensive resumé with contact telephone number, recent 2x2 colored photo, and Transcript of Records to:

HRD-Selection and Hiring
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G/F Matias Building, Aurora Boulevard corner Boston Street, Cubao, Quezon City
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HRD OFFICER
- Male or female between 27 - 35 yrs. old. Graduate of Psychology
- Preferably 3-5 years work experience in the same field
- Well versed in all facets of HR functions such as Recruitment, Compensation & Benefits, Employee Relations and Training

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- Must be a Registered Nurse
- Male or female between 21- 35 yrs. old, preferably CGFNS passers
- With at least 6 mos. to 1-year work experience in a hospital or clinical environment

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- Male or female not more than 30 yrs. old
- Graduate of Marketing or any Business Course
- Preferably with 1- 2 years work experience in Sales

WEB DEVELOPER
- Male or female, Degree in any 4-year computer course
- With at least 1 to 3 yrs. work experience as Web Developer, proficient in HTML, ASP, PEARL, ADOBE ILLUSTRATOR, DREAMWEAVER and FLASH

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- Between 21- 30 yrs. old.
- Graduate of any 4 year computer course

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- Degree in any 4-year computer course
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- Must be proficient in VB6, SQL, ASP, POWER BUILDER, WEB PAGE DEV., COBOL, CLIPPER, C+,C++, UNIX and must be knowledgeable in SQL Server, ORACLE or ACCESS .

Please apply personally or mail comprehensive resume and transcript of records to:

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Cebu Office: Unit 105-106 Grand Arcade Bldg. A.C.Cortez Ave., Mandaue City ☎(032) 344-7884 to 88
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Water and Sanitation Program
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Philippines Water Supply and Sanitation Performance Enhancement Project (WPEP)

The World Bank Water and Sanitation Program (WSP) is assisting the Government of Philippines (GOP) to reform its policies for water supply and sanitation (WSS) through WPEP, with grant funding from Australia through AusAID. WPEP activities are over sighted by a multi-agency GOP Technical Working Group, and include applied field research, knowledge management and communication, and capacity-building for decision-makers, participating agencies and practitioners.

To coordinate WPEP project activities we are looking for a well-qualified candidate for

Research Assistant

Located in the WPEP project office in DILG, this position provides key support to the Team Leader and Technical Working Group in planning, coordinating, monitoring and reporting activities and disseminating results, including a direct professional role in gathering and analyzing information and producing the required outputs.

Principal Tasks:
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- Assist in the implementation of work plans for WPEP activities by providing the necessary organization and coordination of inputs to ensure that the outputs defined in the work plan are produced in an efficient and timely manner. As required, monitor the outputs of other contributors to WPEP products;
- In consultation with the Team Leader, assist in the preparation of terms of reference for project personnel, contracts for short-term consultants and NGOs, and coordinate the processing of all aspects of technical assistance inputs; and
- Oversee the day-to-day administration of the project office, including the preparation and maintenance of records of financial disbursements, work planning, communications, support personnel management and in liaison with the Team Leader, contribute to the formal reporting to the Project Steering Committee, Technical Working Group and to AusAID. Maintain good liaison with the World Bank Office in Manila.

Selection Criteria:
- A relevant degree (e.g. in economics, engineering, planning, environment, community development, social sciences) and practical work experience in the Philippines relevant to policy reform and or the design and implementation of community-based projects (e.g. with government agencies, ESAs, consultants, NGOs);
- Fluent in English and Tagalog languages with excellent written and verbal communication skills;
- Ability to conduct research and analysis on sector issues and the drafting of the relevant written outputs;
- Demonstrated experience in office administration and management, including in the preparation of work plans and the drafting of services contract documentation;
- Advanced computer skills and full proficiency in the use of relevant software applications and the Internet;
- Ability to work effectively with government and other officials at all levels and with representatives of international agencies in a facilitative role and in a team environment;
- Higher than average analytical, organizational and presentation abilities; and
- Willingness to travel frequently to rural areas within the Philippines.

Professional experience in the WSS sector in the Philippines, training and/or work experience in another country, and/or familiarity with GOP, World Bank or AusAID project procedures and requirements would be an advantage.

A fixed-term contract will be offered on World Bank terms and conditions.

Written applications containing Curriculum Vitae, a recent photo and covering letter addressing the selection criteria should be sent to the address below by **21 September 2001:**

The Administrative Officer
SM Box No. 200
c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer
5/F Bldg. B. SM Megamall, Mandaluyong City
jm1@inquirer.com.ph (Subject: MEGA-WPEP)

SHORT-TERM CONSULTANTS: WPEP maintains a Consultants database, used to select candidates for short-term assignments. Consultants with special skills in the provision of water supply and sanitation services, especially to the poor, are invited to submit their CVs and contact details.

WE ARE INVITING YOU TO MOVE ON WITH US!

In line with the development of our prime properties including a 100-hectare premium property, the largest parcel of undeveloped land with clear title located beside Ayala Alabang in Las Piñas City, we are now looking for dynamic individuals to fill in the ff. positions:

. GENERAL MANAGER for Real Estate
. VICE PRESIDENT for Sales & Marketing
. VICE PRESIDENT for Business Dev't.

Candidates for the above-mentioned vacancies must have at least 5 years extensive experience/direct involvement in Real Estate, Planning, Marketing Development and Sales in a middle management to senior capacity, **at least 30 but not over 55 years of age**, with good public relations and knowledge in dealing with government agencies, self starter, trustworthy, excellent communication skills, analytical, innovative, flexible in handling stress, pressures and meeting tight schedules.

We offer competitive compensation package (open salary depending on experience and qualifications) plus numerous benefits to successful candidates. Interested parties may come personally or send their comprehensive resumé with picture and transcript of records to:

SVP-HRD, 4/F State Centre Building #333 Juan Luna Street, Binondo, Manila. Tel. nos. 242-1521-36, with fax nos. 242-0614 or 242-1227. You can also reach us through our e-mail address: stateinc@info.com.ph.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

The country's leading newspaper is looking for:

CLASSIFIED ADS DIVISION MANAGER

- Graduate of any Marketing Course
- 5 years marketing experience
- 3 years management experience
- Knowledge in product, price, distribution and promotion strategies
- Knowledge in management planning and budgeting skills

Mail your application letter, comprehensive resumé and 1x1 ID photo to:

HR MANAGEMENT SERVICES HEAD
Philippine Daily Inquirer
Chino Roces Avenue
(formerly Pasong Tamo)
Corner Yague and Mascardo Sts.,
Makati City

E-mail:
recruitment@inquirer.com.ph

CHATEAU
ORTIGAS CENTER
MALATE CENTER
Group of Restaurants

Invites applicants for its expansion program

RESTAURANT OPERATIONS MANAGERS
College graduate, preferably of HRM course, at least 2 years experience as restaurant manager or at least 3 years experience as an assistant manager in a fine-dining restaurant.

RESTAURANT SERVICE MANAGERS
College graduate, preferably of HRM course, at least 2 years experience as an assistant manager or 3 years experience as a senior supervisor in a fine-dining restaurant or 5 years managerial experience in a related field.

FOOD AND BEVERAGE AUDITOR
College graduate, preferably of HRM course, at least 3 years experience in cost control, purchasing and stockroom operations in a supervisory capacity.

HEAD COOKS
College graduate or its equivalent in work experience, has at least 3 years experience in a fine-dining restaurant. Must have knowledge on recipe quantification and costing, is committed to high standards of food and cooking.

GUEST SERVICE OFFICERS
College graduate, to be trained in sales, marketing and customer relations.

TRAINEES FOR PROFESSIONAL RESTAURANT STAFF
College graduate, preferably of HRM course or its equivalent in work experience, to be trained as Servers, Cashiers, Receptionists and Kitchen Helpers, job experience in a fine-dining restaurant is an advantage.

PERSONNEL MANAGER
College graduate, has at least 3 years experience in all facets of Personnel Management such as recruitment and placement, compensation and benefits, training, performance appraisal, has working knowledge of labor laws.

Candidates must be willing to undergo 4 to 6 months of extensive training in all aspects of our operations.

Qualified applicants may send their resumé, 2x2 ID picture, transcript of records, certificate/s of employment or clearance from previous employer/s to:

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
1771 M. Adriatico Street, Malate, Manila

** Positions available up to end of September 2001.*
** Anticipated October graduates are welcome to apply.*

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HRAD SECTION MANAGER

As a key member of the HR team, you will play an instrumental role in implementing Human Resources policies, strategies, and initiatives for the entire company. You will engage in HR functions such as Compensation and Benefits Administration, Performance Management, Employee Relations and Labor Relations. You will be responsible in maintaining and improving existing wage and salary structure, compensation policies, performance appraisal programs, employee benefit programs and services. In addition, you will determine and recommend employee relations practices necessary to establish a positive employer-employee relationship and promote a high level of employee morale.

You must possess a Bachelor's degree or equivalent in Human Resources Management with at least 5 years experience in human resources functions, of which some functional exposure in employee relations and labor relations as areas of specialty will be most advantageous. You must be results and people oriented, tactful, mature, and flexible. You must have the ability to get along with diverse personalities.

Interested parties should apply in person or send their comprehensive resume not later than ***September 22, 2001*** *to:*

The Recruitment Office
2900 Faraday Street
cor. South Superhighway
Makati City
Tel. Nos.: 889-4157 or 843-5593
Fax No.: 843-5593
E-mail:
queenie_garrote@inod.com

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MAKE A CAREER CHOICE ONLINE.

We are highly progressive group of companies with market leadership in Asset Management, On-line Financial Services, Real Estate Investments, and International Commerce.

With a total of seven offices in the Philippines, we invite applicants to join our branch in "Binondo" as:

INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO MANAGERS

Applicants should be:

- ✓ Male/female
- ✓ 22-35 years old
- ✓ Previous work experience in the field of business, finance or marketing an advantage
- ✓ Self-motivated with dynamic personality
- ✓ Excellent communication skills
- ✓ Aggressive and analytical
- ✓ Possess leadership qualities
- ✓ Can work with minimum supervision
- ✓ Chinese speaking, a preference

We offer: **Monthly remuneration**
Commission in U$ dollars

Apply at: 6/F Sun Life of Canada Building
Dasmariñas Street corner Quintin Paredes Streets
Binondo, Manila

Schedule of Interview:

10:00 AM to 12:00 PM Monday to Thursday
1:00 PM to 4:00 PM September 17-20, 2001

Note: Please come in business attire and bring your resumé with 2x2 ID picture. **Previous applicants need not apply.**

We are in need of

SALES OFFICER
RESELLER CHANNEL OFFICER

Qualifications:

Graduated from a 4-year college course,
preferably business related and from a reputable university,
excellent communications skills; fluent in English and Filipino;
customer-oriented, goal-oriented, with the ability to surpass performance goals set;
must have above average financial and negotiation skills;
previous sales experience is an advantage

Qualified and interested applicants are requested to send their application letter, picture and comprehensive resumés to:

CyberStateU.com Philippines, Inc.
3rd Flr. Blue Bldg., 188 E. Rodriguez Jr. Avenue,
Bagumbayan, Quezon City
or email us at *verdeflor.m@cyberstateu.com.ph*

The future is e-commerce

Global Sources leads the field in the development of new products to connect the worlds trading partners. We provide e-commerce solutions for volume buyers and their suppliers and offer exceptional opportunities in this most exciting of business areas. We are currently looking for :

Marketing Services Executive

You will generate marketing services projects for sale by account executives of technical magazines. This involves liaising with sales, production and other services departments as well as outside clients. A marketing, advertising or any business related qualification and prior work experience in these areas is expected, as is computer literacy.

Project Officer

This position will assist in the maintenance, creation, and upgrade of our interactive media products and services, including our network of websites. You will conceptualize, write copy, manage projects, control quality and analyze site traffic.

A relevant degree with at least one-year work experience in web development, web writing, marketing, and/or project management is required. You must be an organized, motivated person, can work independently with an eye for detail and one whom a fast-paced environment would stimulate.

A competitive remuneration package and a truly challenging, international and dynamic work environment await the right candidates. Interested parties should send their resume and contact details to any of the following:

Corporate Human Resources
online: www.globalsources.com/careers
e-mail: asmhr@globalsources.com
fax: (632) 892-4087
post: P.O. Box 4597, MCPO, Makati City

global sources
www.globalsources.com

We are the 100% subsidiary of a top ten corporation listed in the Fortune 500. The company is growing rapidly in the Philippines in the last three years.

TREASURY / CREDIT COLLECTION ASSISTANT

Knowledge and Experience:

- Graduate of business course major in Accounting
- With at least 5 years work experience in the same or similar position gained from a reputable company
- Proficient in credit and collection management
- Knowledgeable in treasury and import operations
- Strong computer skills

Competencies:

- Hardworking, flexible and resourceful
- Independent and efficient
- Keen on details
- Self-motivated with a strong commitment and drive to deliver
- Ability and willingness to work beyond office hours

INTERNAL CONTROL COORDINATOR

Knowledge and Experience:

- Graduate of business course major in Accounting
- With extensive experience in AUDIT gained from a reputable company
- Knowledgeable in compliance review
- Proficient in report writing
- Monitoring skills
- Strong computer skills

Competencies:

- Independent and efficient
- Keen on details
- Able to handle multiple tasks concurrently
- Self-motivated with a strong commitment and drive to deliver
- Ability and willingness to work beyond office hours

Please send your comprehensive resumé together with one (1) passport-size colored photograph and contact number/s to:

The Personnel Officer
P.O. Box MK-72
c/o Classified Ads Division
Philippine Daily Inquirer
G/F Atrium of Makati
Makati Avenue, Makati City

A publicly listed company based in Hong Kong is looking for a few smart people to further promote its image in the Philippines. We are seeking applicants to fill up positions as:

CONSULTANTS

Qualifications:

- ☑ College graduate with good moral character
- ☑ Male or female, 20 to 35 years old
- ☑ Knowledgeable in foreign exchange, stocks, treasury or commodity trading an advantage
- ☑ Ability to speak Chinese or other foreign languages likewise an advantage

Kindly forward your application letter, resumé and recent 2x2 photo to:

The Marketing Manager
Unit 907-B West Tower, Philippine Stock Exchange Building
Exchange Road, Ortigas Centre, Pasig City 1600 or
EMAIL: 911@edsamail.com.ph

We will reply to qualified applicants only.

MARKETING DIRECTOR

- ☑ M/F 30 to 38 years old, graduate of Marketing, Business Administration from a reputable school
- ☑ With experience in direct sales/multi-level marketing
- ☑ Should possess the following traits:
  - ✓ Analytical/problem solving skills
  - ✓ Leadership and interpersonal skills
  - ✓ Results-oriented
  - ✓ Excellent oral and written communication skills

AREA SALES SUPERVISORS/TRAINORS

- ☑ College graduate, M/F between 25 to 40 years old
- ☑ With pleasing personality and above average people skills
- ☑ With excellent oral and written communication skills
- ☑ Preferably with minimum of 2 years Direct Sales experience or equivalent sales/training experience in supervisory capacity
- ☑ Willing to travel; immediate hiring for Cavite/Laguna/Malolos/ Muntinlupa

Interested applicants may send in their resumé, 2x2 picture and transcript of records to **Second Floor, Roscar Building, #81 EDSA, Mandaluyong City (near MRT Boni Station).**

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

The country's leading newspaper is looking for a:

CIRCULATION FIELDMAN

- Graduate of any business course
- Knowledge of the ins and out of Metro Manila
- Excellent communication skills

Mail your application letter, comprehensive resumé and one 2x2 ID photo to:

HR MANAGEMENT SERVICES HEAD
Philippine Daily Inquirer
Chino Roces Avenue
(formerly Pasong Tamo)
Corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City

or e-mail:
recruitment@inquirer.com.ph

An International Mechanical and Electrical Engineering company is in need of the following:

ASSISTANT MECHANICAL & ELECTRICAL ENGINEER

- ☑ Not more than 35 years old with at least 5 to 10 years experience
- ☑ Capable of handling project with minimum supervision and willing to be assigned on site (Metro Manila and Provincial area)
- ☑ With at least 2 to 3 years CAD experience
- ☑ Knowledge in AutoCAD Version 2000 is a must
- ☑ Salary commensurate to experience and qualifications

ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT/CLERK

- ☑ Female, Accounting graduate with good scholastic record from reputable universities
- ☑ Not more than 30 years old with at least three (3) years experience in a construction firm
- ☑ Computer literacy is a must (Word, Excel, Access, etc.)
- ☑ CPA is a definite advantage
- ☑ Salary commensurate to experience and qualifications

Please send your resumé via POSTAL MAIL or E-MAIL us together with copies of your Transcript of Records, Employment Certificate (if there's any), Certificate of Seminars and Trainings attended, recent 2x2 picture with your complete contact address and telephone numbers to:

SHINRYO (PHILIPPINES) COMPANY, INC.
Room 504 One Corporate Plaza Building
845 A. Arnaiz Avenue, Makati City 1200 or
E-mail to Shinryo1@info.com.ph or purchase@info.com.ph

We will reply and/or call to all QUALIFIED APPLICANTS only!

URGENT

TOKAI PRECISION PHILIPPINES, INC.

A prestigious Japanese PEZA Warehousing Facilities Company located in Laguna, whose main line of products are electronic materials and components is in need of:

SALES COORDINATOR

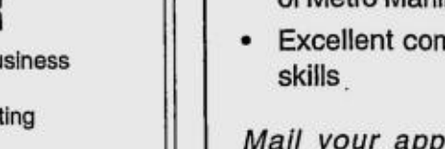
Job Qualifications :
Female
22-25 years old
A graduate of Management/Marketing or any related course
Experience in Sales is an advantage but not a must
Computer literate (MS WORD, EXCEL, etc.)
Good in both oral & written communication
Highly trainable and willing to learn PEZA rulings
Can work long hours under hard pressure

Qualified candidate will be responsible in customer assistance, import/export (shipments monitoring) and other sales functions.

You can submit or mail your Resumé to:

TOKAI PRECISION PHILIPPINES, INC.
Panorama Bldg. 4 Blk. 5 Lot 9
PEZA, LIIP, Mamplasan, Biñan, Laguna
Tel. No. (049) 539-1021, Fax at (049) 539-1022
or E-mail at tpprmm@laguna.net

Your career might only be a click of the mouse away.



JOBMarket ONLINE
www.Jobmarketonline.com

Chailease Finance Corporation

We are a multinational finance and leasing company strategically located all over the world. For our global expansion here in the Philippines, we are currently looking for the right people to fill up the following positions:

ACCOUNT OFFICER/S

- Male or female, not more than 35 years old, graduate of business related course.
- Preferably with depth experience in commercial bank or in finance company.
- With existing portfolio would be an advantage.

MARKETING ASSISTANT/S

- Male or female, not more than 25 years old, should be familiar with different government offices transactions and with credit checking background.
- Matured, independent, responsible, trustworthy and highly motivated.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills and good interpersonal skills.
- Computer literate.

ACCOUNTANT

- Male or female, not more than 35 years old, mature and independent.
- Preferably CPA with at least three (3) years work experience in financial institutions.
- Familiar with SEC, BSP and BIR regulations involving financial activities.
- Computer literate, with good communication skills and interpersonal relations.

ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT

- Male or female, graduate of B.S. Accountancy. Not more than 26 years old, computer literate and adept to all types of environment.
- Preferably with previous experience in banks, financial institutions or accounting firm.

Interested applicants may send their letter of application, resumé, transcript of records and recent photo to:

Human Resources Dept.
Chailease Finance Corporation
12/F, 6750 Ayala Avenue
Makati City, Philippines

Adventures in Fine Dining
STREETLIFE

JOBS... JOBS... JOBS!

We are in need of the following personnel for our re-opening on November 2001:

Dining Room Managers
Management Trainees
GSA (Guest Services Associates)
Service Crew
Kitchen Crew

Send your resumé with your latest picture to Mr. Joel Portugal from Monday to Friday, from 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Contact No. 817-8934

Philippine Economic Zone Authority
Block 23 Phase IV
Rosario, Cavite

If you're a dynamic, hardworking individual and possess the qualifications we are looking for then apply now... and be part of one of the largest wood manufacturing company in Asia.

Assistant Supervisors (for production and maintenance)
- Male / Female at least 20-30 years old
- Graduate of any Engineering course
- With at least 6 months of supervisory work experience
- Aggressive, analytical and assertive
- Knowledge in machine operation for wooden product

MIS Technician
- Graduate of BS Computer Science major in Computer Technician, Programming or Computer Engineering
- Male/Female between 21-27 years of age
- Client Oriented
- Knowledgeable in Win NT/98, TCP/IP, PBX, PC troubleshooting (Hardware and Software)

With six months experience in the following:
- Server / LAN Admin
- Telephone Technician
- Data Communication

Data Encoder
- Male/Female between 21-27 years old
- Graduate of Computer Science or any computer related course
- With experience in office work and has numerical ability
- People oriented and can work on extended hours

PRODUCTION BASED

Truck Head Driver (urgent hiring)
- Male at least 30 up to 40 years of age
- High school or Vocational Course (related in auto mechanic)
- Experience in Driving Truck Head
- Skills in Heavy Equipment Mechanic
- With Professional Driver's License (R Code- 6 & 3, 2, 1)

Electrician
- Male between 20-27 years old
- Vocational or College Graduate (I.T./Electrical Course)
- At least 6 months experience as electrician
- Knowledge in AVR control
- Can read electrical diagram symbol

Forklift Operator (urgent hiring)
- At least High School / vocational / college Level
- Male between 20-27 years old
- With 6 months experience in forklift operation
- With Professional Driver's License
- Good moral character

Mechanic
- Male between 21-27 years old
- Vocational graduate
- With at least 6 months of experience as mechanic
- Knowledge in compressor repair
- Must be familiar in manufacturing machine trouble

You can mail or hand carry your comprehensive resumé with 2x2 picture and transcript of records at the above address. For inquiries, call telephone nos. (046) 437-2486 or 437-0849. Look for Christian or Ehmee or you can e-mail your resumé at hrd_scad@yahoo.com

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This ad needs a big idea.

It could be yours.

Brilliant Senior Copywriter
3 or more years of agency experience
Preferably female

Account Manager
3 or more years of agency experience
Excellent leadership skills

Fax your resume to
The Advertising Agency
636 7063

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

PROJECT MANAGER
- Male, Registered Civil / Structural Engineer
- With at least 5 years work experience in the supervision of construction projects
- At least 35 to 40 years old
- Must be assertive, decisive, cost conscious and could maintain good working relationship with clients and representatives
- Must exhibit leadership and management skills

SITE ENGINEER
- Male not over 30 years old
- Civil / Structural Engineering or Architecture graduate preferably licensed
- With at least 1 to 2 years work experience
- Computer literate
- Good communication skills, oral and written

QUALITY CONTROL INSPECTOR
- Male, preferably not more than 30 years old
- College level
- With at least 1 to 2 years work experience in quality controlling
- Knowledgeable in computer application and preparing inspection reports
- Hardworking honest, resourceful and self initiative

SAFETY OFFICER
- Male, preferably not more than 30 years old
- Nursing Graduate, preferably registered
- With at least 1 or 2 years work experience in construction
- Computer literate
- Good communication skills, oral and written

PLEASE SEND RESUMÉ WITH 2x2 ID PICTURE TO THE PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT AT P.O. BOX 1443 MCPO, MAKATI CITY

STORES SPECIALISTS, INC.

Urgently Needs...

MAKE-UP ARTISTS (MA-001)
- Male, Female, Gay, between 21-30 years old
- Graduate of any 4-year Business-related course
- At least 5'2" in height with pleasing personality and clear complexion
- Preferably with skin care experience/Cosmetology background
- Good in oral communication skills

SALES ASSOCIATES (SA-001)
- Male/Female, between 21-28 years old
- Graduate of any 4-year Business-related course
- At least 5'2" in height with clear complexion
- Must have initiative, ability and sustained interest in selling
- Must possess a pleasing and dynamic personality
- Good in oral communication skills

HVAC TECHNICIAN (HT-001)
- Male, not over 30 years old
- Graduate of Mechanical Engineering
- At least 3 years related work experience

SENIOR FLORISTS/JUNIOR FLORISTS (SF/JF-001)
- Male or Female
- Experience with fresh flowers is a must
- Honest, hardworking & highly motivated

BEAUTY CONSULTANTS (BC-001)
- Female, between 21-28 years old
- Graduate of any 4-year Business-related course
- At least 5'2" in height with pleasing personality and clear complexion
- Preferably with skin care experience/Cosmetology background
- Good in oral communication skills

FINANCIAL ANALYSTS (FA-001)
- Male/Female, between 21-35 years old
- Accounting graduate, computer literate
- Proficient in oral & written communication with analytical ability
- Preferably with related work experience
- Willing to work beyond regular office hours

DISPLAY ARTISTS (DA-001)
- Female/Male, not over 30 years old
- Fine Arts or Interior Design graduate
- With creative skills in drawing, lettering, silk screening, flower arranging, etc.
- Willing to work beyond working hours

WATCH TECHNICIAN (WT-001)
- Male, not over 35 years old
- Graduate of a 4-year College course with knowledge related to the job
- Preferably with 1-year experience in Watch Repair & Engraving
- Good communication skills
- With opportunity to travel and attend training programs

Interested applicants may submit their comprehensive resumé and recent 2x2 photo to:

STORES SPECIALISTS, INC.
Personnel Department
4th Floor, Midland Buendia Bldg.,
403 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City
PLS. INDICATE POSITION CODES.

WILL DECENA and ASSOCIATES ENGINEERS BUILDERS

Is in need of

CIVIL ENGINEER

Male
Licensed Civil Engineer
Must have 5 years solid experience
In the construction of all types of vertical structure
Knowledgeable in all Civil, Structural, Architectural and Cost Estimate.
Computer literate, self-starter and hardworking

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Female
24 to 30 years of age
Graduate of any 4-year business course
Must at least have a minimum of 3 years work related experience
Computer literate, results-oriented

CIVIL WORKS FOREMAN
PLUMBER
MECHANIC

Bring your comprehensive resumé and apply at (NBI, 2x2 picture, SSS ID or E1 Form)

THE AMD / HRD MANAGER
#84-9 St. 11th Ave., GracePark, Caloocan City
Tel: 7413743 / 7408636 loc. 24 / 364-6178

WANTED

TECHNICAL SALES REPRESENTATIVE
- College graduate in Bio Chemistry, Chemistry, Medical Technology, Chemical Engineering, Food Technology
- Enjoys travelling and good work ethics
- To sell and promote laboratory instruments and supplies (with possible training abroad)

ARCHITECT/DRAFTSMAN
- Not more than 30 years old
- At least two years experience

Please bring your photo and bio-data with transcript of records to:

PHILAB INDUSTRIES, INC.
7487 Bagtikan Street,
San Antonio Village, Makati City
Telephone: 890-8277, 896-6658

KEPCO PHILIPPINES CORPORATION
Which operates and manages the 650MW Malaya Thermal Power Plant in Rizal is now Accepting applicants for:

TAX SPECIALIST

- Bachelor's Degree in Accountancy
- With at least two (2) years work experience in the field of taxation
- CPA License an advantage
- Not more than 28 years old, preferably female

Interested applicants may send their complete resumé, letter of application, transcript of records, college diploma, CPA License, certificate of employment and recent 2"x2" photo to:

MR. YOUNG PARK
Personnel Manager
KEPHILCO, Malaya Thermal Plant
Bo. Malaya, Pililla, Rizal

Or at the address below:

KEPHILCO, Manila Office
Suite 2501-A, 25/F, Tektite Tower I,
Exchange Road, Ortigas Centre, Pasig City

Deadline for submission: **24 September 2001**

YSEI YONG SUNG ELECTRONIC, INC.

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

20 MALE TECHNICIANS
- Recent graduate of a 4-year Electronics related course or its equivalent (graduating class 2000 - 2001)
- 20-25 years of age
- With or without work experience
- Can work under pressure and with less supervision
- **Willing and able to travel abroad for training**

200 PRODUCTION WORKERS/OPERATORS
- Female
- Single
- With at least two (2) years college education
- At least 5'2" in height
- 18-21 years of age
- With or without work experience
- Can work under pressure and with less supervision
- Willing to work under shifting schedule
- **Willing and able to travel abroad for training**

Interested applicants may apply in person with the following documents or send photocopies of the following documents not later than 17 September 2001:

1. Resumé or Bio-data with accompanying colored passport-size picture
2. Birth Certificate (NSO-authenticated for passport)
3. Transcript of Records / Diploma / Other School Credentials
4. NBI Clearance (not less than one (1) year effectivity)

AT:

YONG SUNG ELECTRONIC, INC.
PHASE 2, BLOCK 1, LOT 9
CAVITE ECONOMIC ZONE
ROSARIO, CAVITE

Visit us at our website

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER JOBMarket ONLINE

www.jobmarketonline.com

TECHNICAL/PROFESSIONAL/GENERAL

NETWORK ADMINISTRATOR

To provide technology application and administrative support to an international nonprofit organization's Manila office. Primary duties will include:

- Network administration
- Local and global software application systems implementation
- Hardware acquisition, installation and maintenance
- End-User training and support
- Continuing education and development

The Administrator will be responsible for supporting the local IT environment, including Microsoft NT, Windows 2000, Back Office (Exchange, Outlook, Office 2000), and internal IT initiatives.

Required qualifications:

- ✓ University degree, preferably in Computer Engineering or Computer Science, or
- ✓ Minimum equivalent of 5 years experience in a position with similar responsibilities, preferably in organizations or companies with international affiliations
- ✓ Excellent knowledge of the IT industry development, hardware, software and communications technologies (WAN, LAN, wireless technologies, internet, and the Microsoft Exchange)
- ✓ Excellent verbal and written skills in English
- ✓ Excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- ✓ Excellent analytical and planning skills
- ✓ Initiative and results-oriented abilities to work independently
- ✓ Philippine citizenship

This will be an opportunity to join a prestigious nonprofit international organization, with presence in fifteen countries, that offers an excellent organizational climate and competitive salaries and benefits.

Application in writing, together with a current resumé detailing personal qualifications and employment history, and 2 letters of recommendation should be directed by **24 September 2001** to:

The Representative
P.O. 1936
Makati Central Post Office
1259 Makati City

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Interested parties may send their resumé with 2"x2" picture to:

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E-Mail: Taz1@MailCity.com
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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IMPLEMENTING TASK FORCE

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(In compliance with RA 7041)

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Attn: The Administrative & Operations Manager

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Apply at: **4th Floor, Edmark Building, No. 335 P. Tuazon Boulevard corner 21st Avenue, Cubao, Quezon City**
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- Computer literate
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- Good health/Fit to work

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*Deadline for submission of application is on **September 25, 2001***

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- One to two years experience as customer service

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- Accounting Graduate
- Computer literate
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- Should reside in the South area

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Chino Roces Ave. (formerly Pasong Tamo)
Corner Yague and Mascardo Sts,, Makati City
E-mail; recruitment@inquirer.com.ph

SUNDAY INQUIRER

GET TO KNOW SOME REAL PEOPLE

MAGAZINE

September 16, 2001
Volume 14 No. 28

Red Hot Lit

Winners of the 51st Don Carlos Palanca Memorial Awards for Literature

Features

Cover Story
Rhapsody in September *by The SIM Staff* 3
On its 51st year, the Don Carlos Palanca Memorial Awards for Literature remains the country's most important literary prize. This year, we welcome two Hall of Famers, a doctor who writes kids' tales, a lover of Pinoy classics, a UP professor, a wacky filmmaker and a math-loving essayist to the Palanca fold

2001 Don Carlos Palanca Memorial Awards for Literature List of Winners 12
Join in the applause as we peruse the complete list of this year's Palanca winners

I Was a Palanca Judge *by Doreen G. Fernandez* 13
The author takes pride in having seen the selection process through for several years

Regulars

Letters 2

The Word **A Small Solution** *by Fr. Ruben J. Villote* 14

This Week 15

Pinoy Nga! **Second Hand** *by Jess Abrera* 15

Cover Story page 3

The Cover Image Meet the cream of the country's literary crop in Palanca first prize winners (clockwise from top left) Krip Yuson, Chris Martinez, Queena Lee-Chua, Leo Deriada, Mike Coroza, Chari Lucero, Quark Henares and Luis Gatmaitan *Photographs by Mike Alquinto*

ENOUGH BLASPHEMY

It was poignant literature, if only for the constant namedropping of Jesus Christ, that your magazine printed (SIM, 29 July 2001) featuring four "venerable" defenders (Fortun, Panelo, Saguisag and Lozano) of a once "overdog" who now faces a death sentence. It must have been touching for Asiong Salonga to read that his lawyers are modern-day disciples. But those persistent biblical quotations are just a manifestation of their insecurity. Yes, if Christ were here He would visit Jose Velarde not because he "now attends religious services more often," but to tell Erap that he is loved, but must put a stop to all these pretentious acts. He must admit to each and every one of us Filipinos that he has unashamedly trampled on a sacred religious sacrament, his baptism. Please, no more blasphemy. Defend Joseph if you please. Juan has had enough of names already.

GREG QUIMPO
magsasaka@gardener.com

FROM RENE SAGUISAG

From the time I got involved in Erap's problems I was regularly getting my share of hate mail, which eventually dwindled down to a few, precious or otherwise. After the July 29 issue of the Inquirer Magazine, the fanatics stopped, and it has been so positive since.

The Jesuits may say it is fallacious to argue *post hoc ergo propter hoc* (after the fact therefore because of the fact) but I am truly more grateful than I can say.

I regret I could write to you only now but I just sent a copy of my piece to another friend asking "Why?" It has come as a handy explanation.

Thanks loads.

R. A. V. SAGUISAG

ADMIRING JONATHAN

I had first known of Jonathan Best from this magazine more than a year ago, when your issue featured his 25 years with John Silva and their blissful life as a gay couple. And again, this time (SIM, August 12, 2001), I feel deep admiration for Jonathan because during his teens and until now, he respected his sister's decision to be with the man of her dreams. This is an example of homosexuals never questioning the existence of heterosexuals. Why then can some heterosexual people not give the mutual understanding homosexuals deserve?

Like John and Jonathan, I have known a lot of homosexuals who succeeded in building a family of their own against all forms of discrimination. A person becomes a true person not through their sexual orientation, but rather through respect for the rights of others.

More power!

CYNTHIA D. TABERNILLA
buzzly01@hotmail.com
Quezon Avenue cor. S. Reyes
St. 4327 Tayabas, Quezon

ATTENTION CONTRIBUTORS!
SIM strives to pay our valued contributors within three weeks of publication of an article or poem. However, to facilitate preparation of your fees – and to avoid an unnecessary trip! – please give the Cashier a call at tel. no. 897-8808 local 533 to confirm if your check is ready before visiting. Many thanks and keep them coming!

Sunday Inquirer Magazine
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Rhapsody in September

photographs by Mike Alquinto

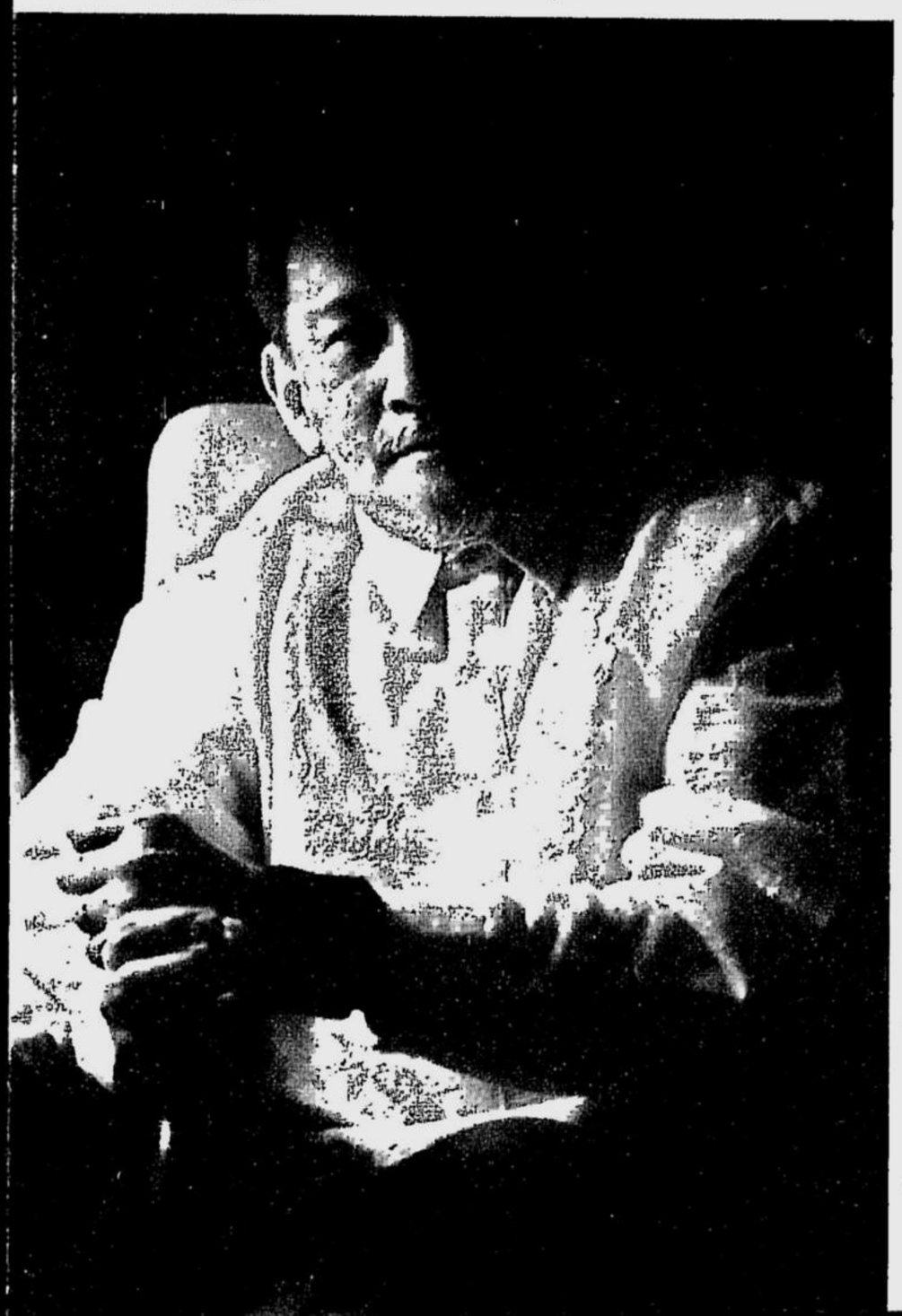
SEPTEMBER signifies one of the most important events for Philippine letters: the awarding ceremony of the Don Carlos Palanca Memorial Awards for Literature. For over half a century, the Palanca Awards have been a reunion for good friends in the written word, a rite of passage for up-and-coming writers and a unique opportunity to celebrate a literary community's spirit. It is the concluding leg of a pilgrimage for writers that began with the offering of entries until midnight of April 30, and moves on inexorably towards August when devotees hope to receive that much-awaited congratulatory telegram.

As SIM continues its yearly tradition of featuring some Palanca first prize winners, it also celebrates the continuing achievement of previously featured Palanca winners, friends like Becky Añonuevo, Grace Chong, Eugene Evasco, John Labella, Sarge Lacuesta, Ed Maranan and Bing Sitoy. We also welcome two writers into Palanca's august Hall of Fame, and a physician-children's story writer, a lover of Pinoy classics, a UP professor, a wacky filmmaker, a daring playwright and a math-loving essayist into the fold. In its 51st year, the Palanca Awards remains the single most important literary prize among the country's aspiring and established writers. **SIM** provides the applause for this year's winners.

Glory from 'Pillage'

For veteran contest winner Krip Yuson, entering the Hall of Fame through his poetry feels oh so right

ALFRED "KRIP" AGUINALDO YUSON HAS WON SO MANY PALANCA AWARDS, HE HAS ACTUALLY LOST COUNT, HAVING WON FOR SUCH VARIED CATEGORIES AS POETRY, FICTION, NOVEL AND EVEN DRAMA, IN BOTH ENGLISH AND FILIPINO. HE HAS ACTUALLY ALREADY WON 12 PALANCA AWARDS GOING INTO THIS YEAR'S TILT. THE MUCH-AWARDED AUTHOR HAS REMAINED ON THE CUSP OF PALANCA IMMORTALITY — WITHOUT HIS KNOWING IT. "I WASN'T AWARE THAT I WAS ONE FIRST PRIZE AWAY FROM BEING IN THE HALL OF FAME UNTIL SOMEONE REMINDED ME OF IT TWO YEARS AGO," HE RECALLS. KRIP, OWNER OF A NICKNAME THAT'S THE RESULT OF A NONSENSICAL *BARKADA* EXERCISE THAT STUCK, ALREADY HAS FOUR FIRST PRIZES—AND A TON OF SECOND PRIZES.



Winning has become a habit for Krip, 56, who has won a list of awards—the SEAWrite, Philippines Free Press Literary Award, Centennial Literary Prize, National Midweek award, Asiaweek Short Story prize—as long as his relationship with poetry. That he topped this year's poetry derby seems only proper. He's very much a joiner and a founder— he helped found the Philippine Literary Arts Council, the Creative Writing Foundation, Inc., and the Manila Critics Circle. Yet he actually wasn't joining the Palanca anymore.

The veteran writer and Palanca judge had actually stopped joining a few years back. He barely missed barging into the Hall last year after his play in Pilipino finished second— and the category had no first prize winner. In reality, he wanted to join a different category this year but wound up competing in poetry in English because "that was what I had." The collection, "Pillage and other Poems," actually began, in Krip's own words, as "poems on a series of nefarious crimes such as plunder and treason." He himself admits that this collection is a little different because "some of the poems have a social dimension,

Palanca by the Numbers

THINK you know everything about the country's top literary tilt? Here are a few interesting facts and figures about the prestigious Palanca Awards through the years:

Year the Don Carlos Palanca Memorial Awards for Literature was begun: 1950
Number of categories in 1950: 1 (short story in English and Filipino)
Number of categories in 2001: 21
Total number of Palanca Awards given since 1950: 1,488
Total prize money given in 2001: P638,000
Total number of judges in 2001: 63
Total number of entries in 2001: 977
Category with the most entries in 2001: Poetry (151 entries in English and 86 entries in Filipino)
Category with the least entries in 2001: Futuristic Fiction (11 entries in Filipino and 18 entries in English)
Writer with the most Palanca Awards ever: Rene O. Villanueva with 29 awards
Number of first prizes necessary for the Hall of Fame: 5
Number of writers in the Palanca Hall of Fame: 14 (Roberto Añonuevo, Cirilo Bautista, Greg Brillantes, Elsa Coscoluella, Jose Dalisay, Leoncio Deriada, Ma. Luisa A. Igloria, Elynia Mabanglo, Edgardo Maranan, Buenaventura Medina, Jess Peralta, Rolando Tinio, Rene Villanueva, Alfred Yuson)

Deadline for next year's Palanca Awards: Midnight, April 30, 2002

Ruel S. De Vera

A Pinoy in Any Language

Leo Deriada has written Palanca Award-winning works in three tongues, but with every word he draws upon rich literary traditions — and proclaims his Filipino-ness

LEONCIO P. DERIADA, A PILLAR OF HILIGAYNON LITERATURE, JOINS THE PALANCA HALL OF FAME THIS YEAR AFTER 26 YEARS OF JOINING THE TILT EVERY SINGLE YEAR—"EXCEPT IN 1997, WHEN THE DEADLINE CAUGHT ME IN ILIGAN," HE CHUCKLES. HE SHARES THE DISTINCTION WITH KRIP YUSON, WHOM HE TIED WITH FOR FIRST PLACE IN THE SHORT STORY CATEGORY WAY BACK IN 1975.

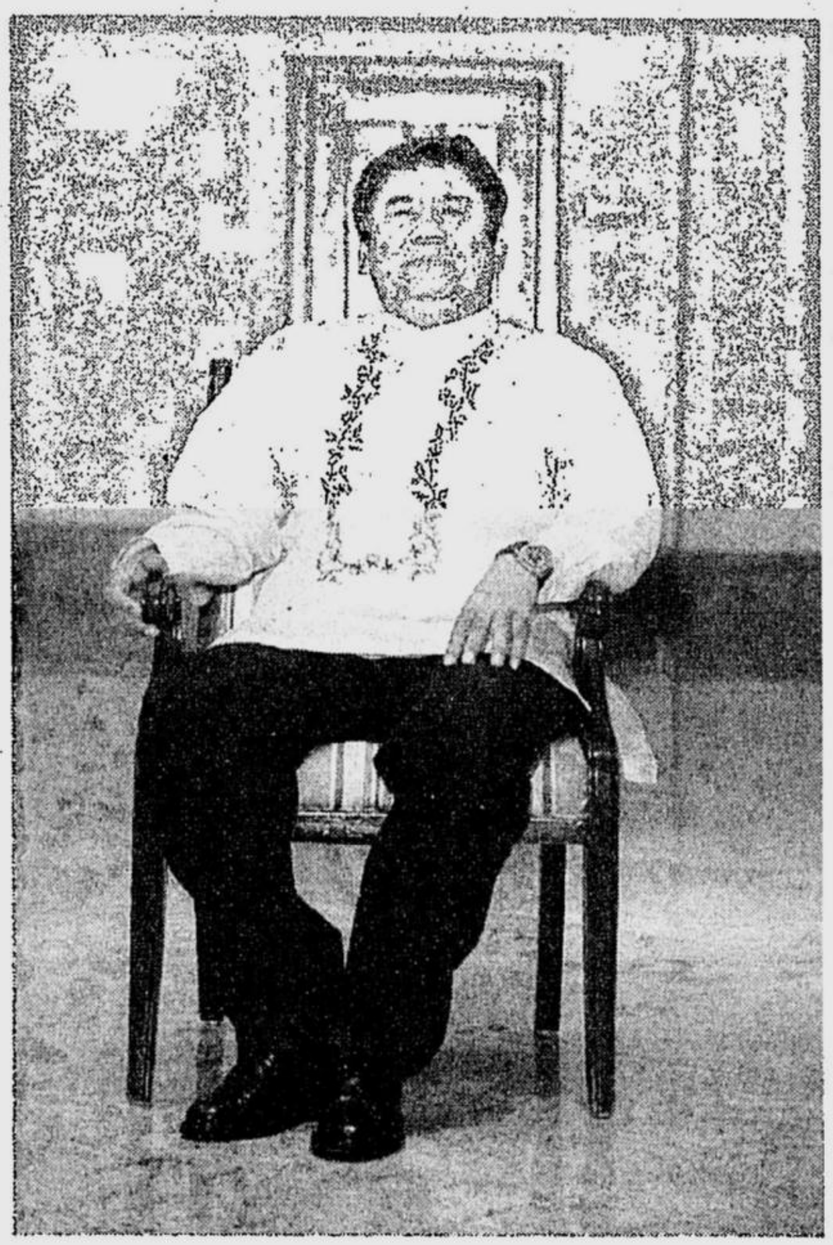
This year, the professor of communication and literature, who is based at the University of the Philippines' Iloilo campus, submitted nine entries. He won two awards, including first place for the full-length play "Maragtas: How Kapinangan Tricked Sumakwel Twice." "Two out of nine isn't a very good record," Deriada muses. Maybe not good enough if you're bringing home your 15th Palanca Award, but Deriada is as pragmatic as he is prolific. "Writing is a game," he declares. "It's not a matter of life and death, since I consider myself primarily a teacher who can write. If I lose, I don't get depressed. I just join again next year."

Deriada, whose two children have also grown up to be writers, was the first Palanca winner to bag awards in three languages—English, Pilipino and Hiligaynon. That's because he grew up multilingual, studying English but speaking several dialects at home — and learning to appreciate them all. "There is no such thing as one superior language," he says.

He went out on a limb, however, with his English translation of the Panay Maragtas epic, but Deriada believes his 43 years of experience in teaching English allows him some leeway for manipulation. The play, which revolves around a woman's mystery and deviousness, uses a folk ballad form called the *composo* as an introduction. And while characters in epics are usually symbolic types, Deriada took liberties in fleshing out his protagonists to make them very human, consciously building on tradition but also including contemporary expressions. And then, he leaves the ending wide open. "If I close it, I would be trying to control everything, and I am just one of many who have interpreted this work."

It may not be new material, but it's novel treatment. "I've discovered how rich the culture of Western Visayas is, and it's the duty of writers and researchers like myself, people who know the craft, to draw from this national heritage." No matter what language he uses, though, Deriada claims he is "extremely Filipino. I am proud of who I am."

Alya B. Honasan



and that's because of the national events in recent times." As the Palanca deadline came around, he packaged those socially oriented poems with poems that were, essentially, historical and personal vignettes. The result on September 1: First prize for poetry in English and installation in the Hall of Fame.

Krip feels fulfilled that he's in the Hall together with some of his good friends. He says he may likely "retire" from joining, but "it's always nice to compete." Plus, he's interested in joining the other categories he hasn't won: "Like future fiction, for example. I'm thinking about joining that because I have a few ideas." Message to future Palanca competitors: Be afraid. You never know in which category the tireless Krip Yuson will be lurking.

Ruel S. De Vera

From **"Pillage and Other Poems"**
by Alfred A. Yuson
First Prize, Poetry in English

Pillage

Stones. We had to deprive them of stones.
Clearing the paths to the village, we sent
the old men and the children home. Flowers.
No one could ever raise a yard of color.
Our matches went to work. The women wept
when they saw how sweat beaded our brows.
The river flowed, now as fast as stories told
of loss of face. How could they smile toothily
at one another, even when mornings promised
our departure? How can they look one another
in the eye, thump breasts and shoulders, suckle
from mothers? Their mountains were as forlorn.
Without stones, without flowers. But that is how
wars are won and dark souls are remembered.
So said our generals, who always knew better.
We had to suck away their spirit, leave no chance
for rebirth of courage. We took away all their stones,
the polish of their dreams. We buried the love
that made them strong. We burned all buds and flowers.
Now there are no heroes even in their bravest songs.

Plunder

The man with the moustache, who stole
many chickens, is picked clean at a line-up.
The man without a moustache who loved –
with nary a mansion – scores higher in EQ.

Equine the studies when it comes
to their portraits – studs to the hilt
for cunt and money. And of course that pride
in riding down the most chickens, which lay

eggs, or didn't lay eggs, crowed or clucked,
picked at worms as if they were pearls,
strutted or scampered, as cocks or hens or
chicks scuttling at the sense of pit or market...

Whatever their sex or generation you knew
of the nervous energy in foretaste of turning
headless. Their wealth was buried in the ground.
All you had to do was call in the sentries
or Kristos, wall up the dig, raise the gates
to guard the cache, use dynamite or cyanide.
And it was all yours. You had the most number
ever of chickens. Never enough for the omelet.

But more than enough to fry, feed your refuse
from mistresses. When the lawyers arrive you say
it was all just shit, much shit, yet never enough
to power the lights up on the poverty line.

The songs will come back to you, in jail or crypt.
And you'll still get to burp off all the gravy,
some of the fries. The chit arrives and you're
discounted care of the Guinness book. Look. Sad.

Excerpt from **"Maragtas: How Kapinangan Tricked Sumakwel Twice"**
by Leoncio P. Deriada
First Prize, Full-Length Play in English

SUMAKWEL: Now, we are alone, gracious lady of the island.

KAPINANGAN: Yes, we are alone. Come to my house. I am sure it is a toy compared to yours.

SUMAKWEL: My house is an empty house. It needs a woman—

They enter the little house and sit on the bench. Kapinangan puts the mirror and the lamp on the table.

SUMAKWEL: You have a beautiful home.

KAPINANGAN: Thank you. I was afraid you'd say it needed a man.

SUMAKWEL: Doesn't it?

KAPINANGAN (*smiling deeply*): My house is little but it serves me well. Would you like to chew *buyo* leaves? I will prepare a mixture for you.

SUMAKWEL: No, thank you. A beautiful woman like you should chew nothing but food. Only ugly old women should be allowed to chew *buyo*. I should say that we brought food and drink. We will have a sumptuous midday meal with you and the people of this island. (*Reaches for the mirror on the table.*) Here, look at yourself.

Kapinangan takes the mirror and looks at her face. She bares her teeth and laughs throatily, loud.

KAPINANGAN: Aren't my teeth beautiful?

SUMAKWEL: They would be more beautiful if they were white.

KAPINANGAN: Are you telling me to stop chewing *buyo* leaves?

SUMAKWEL: I am telling you to be more beautiful.

KAPINANGAN: Very well. I will stop chewing anything that is not food. Next time you come, my teeth will be as white as you wish. What else would you like me to stop doing?

SUMAKWEL: Stop playing this game. Who are you?

KAPINANGAN: I am Diwata Aloyon. Lord Bulalakaw sent me here to be caretaker of this island.

SUMAKWEL: You are not a goddess. You are a woman of flesh and blood. It is madness—but you remind me of one I lost not so long ago.

KAPINANGAN: A powerful man like you could not lose anything.

SUMAKWEL: You remind me of my dead wife!

KAPINANGAN: It does not flatter a *diwata* to be a reminder of a mere woman. And a dead one at that.

SUMAKWEL: No, no. She cannot be you. She is dead. She would never dream of having tattoos for eyebrows.

KAPINANGAN: (*laughing softly*): Would you like me to stop wearing my eyebrows, too? What else would you like me to stop doing? Wearing my clothes? But then you would also see the tattoos around my knees and around my waist. No, noble Sumakwel. You will never see a dead woman in me. (*Imperiously.*) I am Diwata Aloyon, Lord Bulalakaw's caretaker of this island! Don't call me something else.

SUMAKWEL: I wish you knew what is in my heart.

KAPINANGAN: Your heart? I thought Lord Sumakwel had no heart. He is wise because he is all mind.

SUMAKWEL: My heart has never denied what my mind considers—

KAPINANGAN: Maybe you never had that heart in the first place.

Creative Excuses

From the frying pan to the fire

by Pete F. Galvez

As the young boy was trying to sneak his date back into her home — very late — the couple was met by a very angry father at the head of the stairs. He boomed out, "Young man, didn't I hear the clock strike four when you brought my daughter home?" The clever boy replied, "Yes sir, you did. It was going to strike eleven, but I grabbed it and held the gong so it wouldn't disturb you." The father muttered, "Doggone it! Why didn't I think of that in my day?"

One can simply marvel at man's creativity, especially when concocting defensive excuses. Brace yourself for this next one: *"Why should God blame me whenever I sin? Didn't He create me a sinner? So if I sin, the blame should be on God, not on me."* A cunning excuse for doing wrong. Or a more subtle approach: *"I'm only human. (Sapagkat ako'y tao lamang.) As such I have my own weaknesses. After all, this is how God made me, an imperfect being. But the Bible commands: 'Be perfect!'* (MATTHEW 5:48). *Now how can I be perfect when God made me otherwise? So that the Bible confuses me with a command for me to be what I could not be. How then can anyone expect me to believe in the Bible?"* A gross misunderstanding. (Note: Would God command man to be what he can't be? When God said, "With Me nothing is impossible" [LUKE 1:37], did He lie?)

> God ... is able to do IMMEASURABLY MORE than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us ... EPHESIANS 3:20

Those two warped rationales regarding sin and the Bible may either be sincere, though founded on wrong assumptions ... or just plain creative excuses. And both are downright defensive (mixed with twelve heaping tablespoons of hopelessness) in attempting to explain away two of life's perennial frustrations: that man is (1) imperfect/weak and, therefore, (2) inclined to wrongdoing that's harmful — to oneself and to others.

Is there ever any way out of this?

There's Hope. A number of years ago, in a mental institution outside Boston, a young girl known as "Little Annie" was locked in a dungeon. The dungeon was the only place, said the doctors, for those who were hopelessly insane. In Little Annie's case, they saw no hope for her, so she was consigned to a living death in that small cage which received little light and even less hope. About that time, an elderly nurse was nearing retirement. She felt there was hope for all of God's children, so she started taking her lunch into the dungeon and eating outside Little Annie's cage. She felt perhaps she could communicate some love and hope to the little girl.

In many ways, Little Annie was like an animal. On occasions, she would violently attack the person who came to her cage. At other times, she would completely ignore them. When the elderly nurse started visiting her, Little Annie gave no indication that she was even aware of her presence. One day, the elderly nurse brought some brownies to the dungeon and left them outside the cage. Little Annie gave no hint she knew they were there, but when the nurse returned the next day, the brownies were gone. From that time on, the nurse would bring the brownies when she made her Thursday visit. Soon after, the doctors in the institution noticed a change was taking place. After a period of time they decided to move Little Annie upstairs. Finally, the day came when the "hopeless case" was told she could return home. But Little Annie did not wish to leave. She chose to stay, to help others. She it was who cared for, taught, and nurtured the world-famous blind lady, Helen Keller, for Little Annie's name was Anne Sullivan.

Dungeon Dwellers. A vast number of people are not aware that they presently live in a condition similar to Little Annie's. Maybe not as terribly serious but dungeon dwellers nonetheless, imprisoned in their own destructive weaknesses, carrying on with selfish machinations that they try to cover up with creative excuses.

Deep within, however, is a crying need for change; for admit it or not, what they're doing is gnawing at them bit by bit, perhaps giving them pain, and in some instances, even making them experience a considerable degree of self-disgust. Worse, many have lost caring and are unfeeling as they continue hurting themselves while hurting others. Some may have even given up hope as their loved ones, friends, and neighbors have almost if not entirely given up on them.

A 911 Situation. Yet, infinitely more than Little Annie's elderly nurse rescuer, God cares for those in great need with His great love and compassion, offering hope and urging them to dial His number: JEREMIAH 33:3 – *"Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know."*

However, many who consider themselves helpless and hopeless are not aware of this readily available and powerful Divine help.

The Answer. One rainy night some years back, a friend of mine and his wife were guests at my residence. While waiting for two more guests to arrive, our conversation drifted toward spiritual matters. At that moment I didn't know why, but I heard myself saying, "In this much troubled world, peace is an elusive commodity. But welcoming the Prince of Peace into one's life would make one experience real and lasting peace." In response, my friend gave a slight nod. Did he really agree or was he just simply being polite?

Weeks later I found out that shortly after he and his wife got home that rainy night, he found himself in the bathroom calling out desperately to God: "If You are real, please do something about my situation" (for he was at that time undergoing psychiatric treatment and could hardly sleep the past two weeks — caused by what he then perceived as an extremely distressing problem in his occupation). That same night after his bathroom encounter, for the first time in so many days he slept like a baby and woke up the next morning feeling much refreshed and strong. Later that day he made what he said was his last visit to his psychiatrist, who, of course, was surprised at his sudden recovery.

Like Anne Sullivan, my friend of that rainy night episode now helps others. A much sought-after dynamic speaker since five years ago, he addresses literally thousands — daily over nationwide radio and in free seminars both here and abroad — helping them open up to realize and experience the importance and power of God in their lives.

Choose. Either go on hiding behind creatively defensive excuses. Or call on The Rescuer *"who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us ..."* (EPHESIANS 3:20).

Surely, God cares for you. Opening up to Him is the most practical thing to do. The key to living in the highest.

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Mixing Math and Metaphors

Literature was her first love but math remains a passion. Palanca first placer for essay Queena Lee-Chua talks on how reading, 'riting and 'rithmetic define her life

ALBERT EINSTEIN DID IT. IF MATH WIZARD QUEENA LEE-CHUA THINKS, TALKS AND BREATHES NUMBERS, BLAME THE GREAT PHYSICIST WHO FIRST HELD THE GIRL IN THRALL WHEN SHE WAS 12. "I WAS FIRST ATTRACTED TO HIS HAIR, IT WAS SO FUNNY," GIGGLES PALANCA'S FIRST PRIZE WINNER IN THE ENGLISH ESSAY.

For sometime, physics books and encyclopedia replaced Tolkien, Nancy Drew, Shakespeare and the classics by her bedside. "Reading was my first love," says Queena. "I also liked math but it was not yet a passion." It helped that she had great math teachers at the Immaculate Concepcion Academy in San Juan, but the genes might have kicked in, too. Queena, 35, is the eldest of three siblings of two doctors who were both honor graduates and very comfortable with math. Of course, Queena adds, her father would have wanted her to go to medical school, "*pero takot ako sa palaka* (I'm afraid of frogs)."

So it was on to BS Math at the Ateneo, "where I got to exercise both sides of my brain."

Her literature professor at the Ateneo, Doreen Fernandez, was very encouraging and helped her trim her writing. The food critic also brought the essay "Why be Afraid of Math" to the attention of Lorna Kalaw-Tirol, then editor of the SUNDAY INQUIRER MAGAZINE. "My essay was published in March 1991. By June, I was offered a column. By December of that year, I had my first book on math."

This year's winning essay, "*Cogito Ergo Sum* or What I Know For Sure I Learned from Mathematics," says Queena, was based on events that happened some time ago when she was teaching basic math. "It sums up what I think is wrong with today's students. It's ironic that students who grow up surrounded by technology should be so poor in science and math."

Queena is married to Smith, "who's also good in math," she laughs, and who works with the Treasury Dept. of Metrobank. She is mother to Scott, 3, whom she considers her greatest achievement, and with good reason. "I had a very risky pregnancy," she recounts. "I didn't know I had 15 tumors in my uterus." Miraculously, she adds, she survived the caesarian operation and the baby came out fine.

She'd give up everything for Scott, Queena stresses. The proud mother reveals that her toddler "can now solve jigsaw puzzles of 100 pieces, and looks at math as a game." Looks like the genes are at it again. **Pennie Azarcon-dela Cruz**

Runaway Winner

Luis Gatmaitan treads softly on the dreams of the disabled with his children's story about shoes and the mysterious ways of a father's love

HE PUT HIMSELF IN HIS YOUNG PATIENT'S SHOES AND CAME UP WITH THIS YEAR'S FIRST PRIZE WINNER IN THE CHILDREN'S SHORT STORY DIVISION IN PILIPINO. DR. LUIS GATMAITAN, A PEDIATRICIAN, RECALLED HAVING A PATIENT WHO WAS BORN WITHOUT FEET. "AND I THOUGHT, WHAT IF HER FATHER WERE A SHOEMAKER? WOULDN'T IT BE NATURAL FOR HIM TO SHOW HIS LOVE BY MAKING THE BEST FOOTWEAR SHE COULD EVER HAVE?"

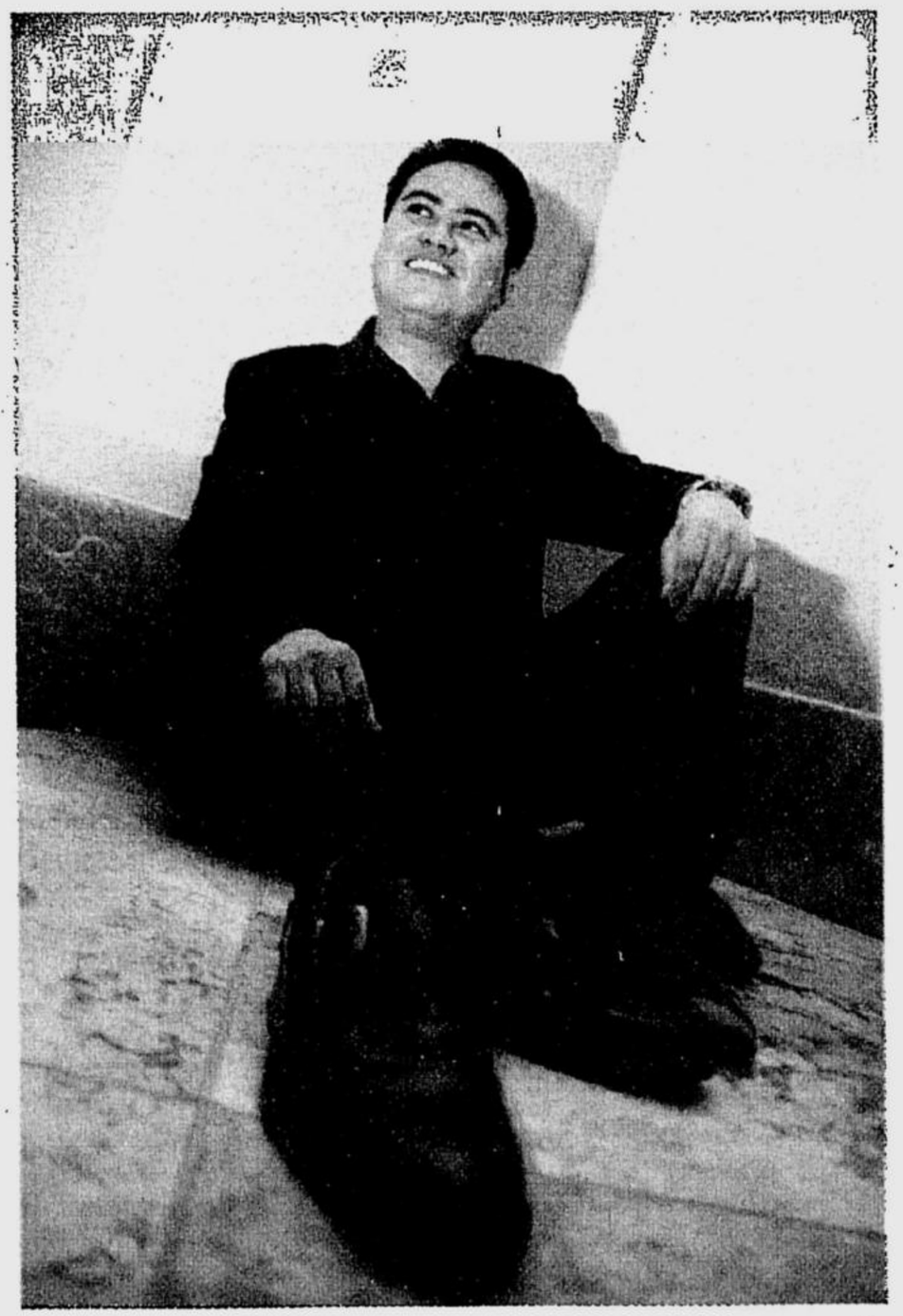
And so Gatmaitan cobbled together "*Sandosenang Sapatos.*" "It was a simple story of a parent's love, but also my way of honoring the disabled as a member of the community through the eyes of a child," says Gatmaitan, a three-time Palanca first placer in Pilipino. He has previously won first prize in 1994 for a children's short story, and in 1997 for an essay. He also placed second last year for another children's story in Pilipino.

Tito Dok, as his young patients call him, has always had a soft spot for children. "I see in kids a wonderful audience; they enjoy stories and they're not cynical at all."

Most of his stories, says Gatmaitan, are drawn from his experiences in the medical profession. Using stories for children, he has demystified such medical topics as blood transfusion, parasites, dengue, vaccination, senility and cancer and turned them into entertaining books. Of the 15 children's stories he has written so far, Gatmaitan chooses "*Ang Pambihirang Buhok ni Raquel*" (on cancer and chemotherapy), "*May mga Lihim Kami ni Ingkong*" (on senility), "*Ang Ambisyosong Istetoskop*" (a tribute to Jose Rizal as a doctor) and "*Ayan na si Bolet Bulate*" (on parasitism) as among his best. "A good children's story," he explains, "must come from the heart. It must touch readers and affect them emotionally. That's why stories about relationships work best." Advises this medical graduate of Far Eastern University: "Never underestimate a child's understanding and never talk down to them."

Gatmaitan has kept a healthy perspective through all the accolades. "In the long run, awards are mere trimmings; they're not the substance of life. As a doctor, I see life and death situations up close everyday, so I know that nothing's as important as life, and that literature only mirrors life."

Pennie Azarcon-dela Cruz



Excerpt from ***"Cogito Ergo Sum* or What I Know For Sure I Learned from Mathematics"**
by Queena Lee-Chua
First Place, Essay in English

AS a mirror of the Information Age perhaps, we are beguiled by speed—in all its forms.

We see this in the headlines. We crave instant wealth, so pilloried upon the tenuous temptations of jueteng, lotto and bingo, we fervently sacrifice our savings. However, since the odds against getting rich through gambling bedevil us, some of us turn to more immediate forms of gaining wealth—robbery, kidnapping, extortion, murder.

And we see this in our technology. We who demand instant knowledge shy away from the library and scour the Net instead, in the misbegotten belief that anything that is in the computer or that comes by way of the computer, is unadulterated fact. Our PCs become obsolete every six months, and eager to save on milliseconds, we upgrade them to faster models. Instead of lingering over the classics, we reach for abridged editions, or worse, clamor for Hollywood to proclaim its own version. CNN has replaced newspapers in many homes, and most of us now habitually act the voyeur as events unfold in "real-time," with nary a delay of hours or minutes. Music Television, with its faster-than-the-eye-can-blink frames, wreaks even more havoc on the concentration spans of our already attention-deficit-hyperactive children.

Some things cannot be hurried — pregnancy, sunrise, a toddler tying his shoelaces.

Excerpt from ***"Sandosenang Sapatos"***
by Luis Gatmaitan, M.D.
First Place, Short Story for Children-Pilipino

Inisa-isa ko ang mga kahon. Lahat ng sapatos na nandoon ay para kay Susie. Diyata't iginagawa ni Tatay si Susie ng mga sapatos?
Para kay Susie, lugod ng aking buhay
Sa pagsapit niya ng ikapitong kaarawan
Taon-taon, hindi pumalya si Tatay sa paglikha ng sapatos sa tuwing magdaraos ng kaarawan si Susie! Sandosenang sapatos lahat-lahat.
Handog sa mahal kong bunso
Sa kanyang ika-12 kaarawan
Napaiyak ako nang makita ang mga sapatos. Hindi ko akalaing ganu'n pala kalalim magmahal si Tatay. Binitbit ko ang sandosenang sapatos at ipinakita ko kina Nanay at Susie.
"H-Hindi ko alam na may ginawa siyang sapatos para 'yo, Susie." Namuo ang luha sa mga mata ni Nanay. "Inilihim niya sa akin ang mga sapatos..."
"A-Ate, ito ang mga sapatos na napanaginipan ko..." Hindi makapaniwalang sabi ni Susie habang isa-isang hinahaplos ang mga sapatos.
"Ha?"
Noon ko lang naalala ang mga sapatos na ikinukuwento ni Susie.
Dilaw na tsarol na may dekorasyong *sunflower* sa harap. Kulay pulang *velvet* na may malaking *buckle* sa tagiliran. Asul na sapatos na bukas ang dulo at litaw ang mga daliri. Kulay puti na may kaunting takong at may ribbon na pula. Sapatos na yari sa maong na may burdang buwan at mga bituin. Sandalyas na parang lambat. Kulay lilang sapatos na may nakadikit na bilog na kristal sa harap.
Naisip ko, tinawid kaya ng pag-ibig ni Tatay ang mga panaginip ni Susie para maipasuot sa kanya ang mga sapatos?
Hindi ko tiyak.
Ang tiyak ko lang, hindi perpekto ang buhay na ito. Gaya ng hindi perpekto ang pagkakalikha sa kapatid ko. Pero may mga perpektong sandali. Gaya ng mga sandaling nilikha ni Tatay ang pinakamagagarang sapatos para kay Susie.

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A Touch of the Classic

Mike Coroza earns his much-coveted first prize with an appreciation for the past and an eye to the future

"FINALLY, A FIRST PRIZE!" MICHAEL "MIKE" COROZA RECALLS HIS FIRST WORDS UPON LEARNING HE HAD PLACED FIRST FOR POETRY IN PILIPINO. A COMPACT MAN WHO IS DISARMINGLY JOVIAL AND DIGNIFIED, MIKE, 32, ALREADY HAS TWO PREVIOUS PALANCA AWARDS, BUT THIS WAS HIS FIRST TIME TO COME OUT ON TOP. HE DID HAVE A LOT OF MOTIVATION. "I WANTED A MEDAL INSTEAD OF A CERTIFICATE," HE SAYS JOKINGLY IN PILIPINO, "AND I WANTED TO BE IN THAT PHOTOGRAPH THAT ONLY HAS THE FIRST PRIZE WINNERS."

The ever-smiling Mike is already a well-known voice in Filipino lit—and in music. Growing up in Marikina, he spent countless hours enjoying the music of Filipino greats such as Sylvia la Torre and Ruben Tagalog. As a child, Mike would sit with his grandfather as they listened to the *balagtasan* on the radio. A precocious Mike would then imitate whatever he heard. Which might explain Mike's ability to render a charming *kundiman* on cue. In fact, he has a collection of some 500 vinyl LPs, all of them Tagalog classics. He also made a habit of writing lilting, thought-provoking poems in Pilipino, imbued with the kind of resonant beauty that belonged to the classics. Mike would go on to study at the University of Santo Tomas, graduating in 1990 with a Philosophy degree. His poems saw publication and he began winning awards.

Aside from writing, Mike has kept himself busy teaching. He has taught at Southridge School and at UST and is currently an assistant instructor at the Ateneo's Department of Filipino. He's also busy on the publishing side and runs, with good friend Marcy Teodoro, the Talingdao Publishing House, a labor of love that publishes only literature. Mike is officially Publishing Director and Editor-in-Chief, though he quickly admits "there really is no money in publishing literature."

There is glory to be had, though. The 12 prize-winning poems in his collection *"Mga Lagot na Liwanag,"* actually comprise but a portion of Mike's forthcoming masteral thesis, the product of about a year and a half of work. "The poems have a lot to do with the doubts we have about our lives, about our grief, death and regrets," he says.

There's no doubt about the great things that still lie ahead for him. Despite the inspiring win, Mike isn't slowing down at all. His second book of poetry is due from UST Publishing House any day now. He also admits to grand designs on the Palancas. "I'd like to make the Hall of Fame some day," he laughs, half-serious. "After all, I'm still young, aren't I?"

Ruel S. De Vera

From ***"Mga Lagot na Liwanag"***
by Michael M. Coroza,
First Prize, Poetry in Pilipino

Matanda sa Bintana

Mahusay sa kulay ang kamay
na nagkuwadro sa iyo, abuhing
anino na parang sinadyang
iadorno, lapat na lapat, sa pagitan
ng mga kapis na panarang babahagyang
binuksan. Agaw-buhay ang araw
sa iyong mga mata, lusaw na ang ingay
at gulo sa kalsada. Sayang at hindi ko
marinig ang ritmo na iyong tinitipa
sa pasamano: marahil pananabik sa isang
pagbabalik o pagkainip sa katuparan
ng malaon nang panaginip.

Sadyang mahusay ang kamay
na nagkuwadro sa iyo, napatigil
ako at nagawang mapaglimi sa kabila
ng aking pagmamadali. Kumakaway
ang lumbay ng iyong mga kulay,
yumayakap sa malay nang napakahigpit:
gumuguhit ng alinlangan sa aking noo,
nagtatatak ng takot sa aking anino.

Dalubhasa ang kamay na nagkuwadro
sa iyo: nagbubukas ng bintana
ng kaluluwa, nakapagpapadungaw
ng pag-aalala. Nilulusaw ng pusyaw
ang aking kasibulan na ngayon
ay nakakuwadrong iyong pinagmamasdan.

Magnanakaw

Tulad ng nasusulat, dumarating
siyang ni walang pasabi
kung kailan sinlalim ng gabi
ang ating kawalan
ng pag-intindi.

Dilim siyang nakapaglalagos
sa lahat ng ating pasadyang
pag-iingat, nakapaghahalungkat
sa bawat lingid na silid o sulok
ng ating mga lugod at pag-iimbot.

Ginigising tayo ng alinsangang
dulot ng kaniyang pangahas
na hininga ngunit dagling
naglalaho siya sa pagmulat
ng ating pangamba.

Napapabalikwas ang ating
takot, at kahit bantulot,
hinahagilap natin ang ikinubling
tapang, iniuumang saanman
may hinalang kumaluskos.

Ngunit tulad ng dapat
asahan, tanging tagumpay niya
ang ating nasusumpungan
sa pinto o bintanang
kaniyang dinestrungka.

Malaking puwang sa ating
loob ang iniiwang bakas
ng kaniyang pagdalaw sapagkat
tinatangay niya pati ang liwanag
sa palad nating binutas ng bagabag.

History as Real Life

Chari Lucero reconnected with her Negrense roots to end a dry spell and find a new voice that's modern yet cognizant of the past

"IT'S WHEN I'M DANCING THAT THE STORIES COME SPILLING OUT OF MY BRAIN," SAYS PRIZE-WINNING FICTIONIST ROSARIO "CHARI" CRUZ LUCERO WHO, APART FROM BEING ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS AND CREATIVE WORKS AT UP'S COLLEGE OF ARTS AND LETTERS, IS ALSO THE COLLEGE'S UNOFFICIAL AEROBIC DANCE INSTRUCTOR.

"Writing and dancing go together perfectly," she adds. "While you're dancing, your mind can keep working."

It wasn't always thus. In fact, for more than 10 years, Lucero suffered from the creative writer's most dreaded malady – a writer's block.

In the 1980s, Lucero garnered critical attention for her Pilipino short stories centering on the militarization that was then ravaging her home province of Negros. Then, following a CCP literary prize in 1988, Lucero was sidetracked from literature when she became one of the editors of the CCP Encyclopedia.

"I was suffering from information overload," she says. "I learned so much about Philippine culture and history. I especially developed a passion for the epic. But I didn't know how to process it in my soul. Where did I belong in all of this?"

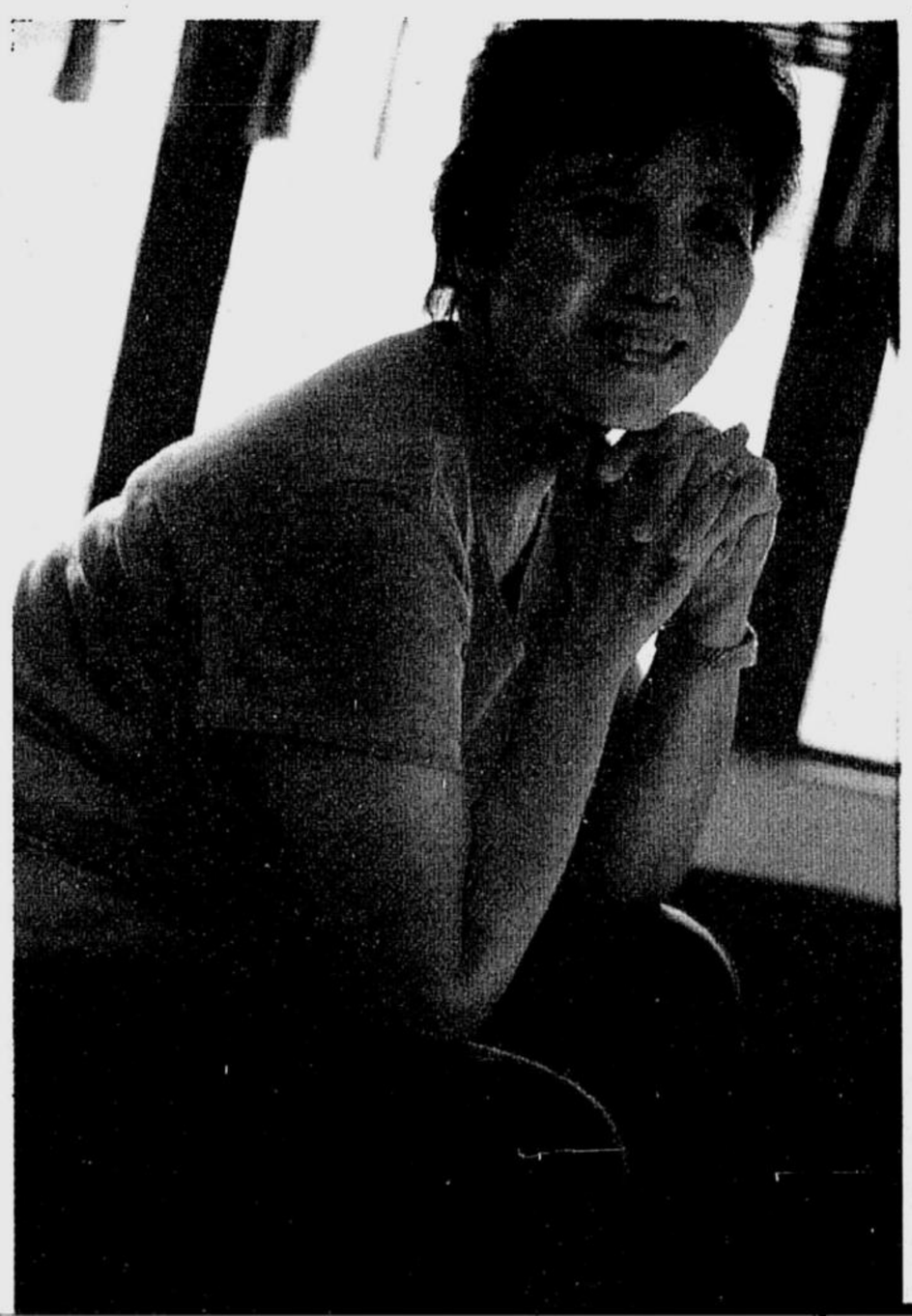
Although she grew up in Bacolod among the children of wealthy sugar planters, her mother was Capampangan and her father Bulakeño, and she remained something of an outsider in Negrense culture.

"After 35 years, I went back to Negros to reconnect with my old friends," she recalls. "I think I was in search of roots." Perhaps it was the long-delayed homecoming, perhaps the decade-long ripening of all she had learned, but on returning to Manila, Lucero found that the long dry spell had ended. Oddly enough, she found that her stories now expressed themselves most naturally in English.

It took half a week to finish "The Death of Fray Salvador Montano, Conquistador of Negros." Lucero credits the inspiration for the story to Fr. Frank Tobin, her literary mentor during her school days in Bacolod, and her readings of historical accounts by 19th century Spanish friars. Surprisingly, it is her first Palanca.

"It wasn't only what they wrote about but the personalities of the authors themselves as *frailes*," she recalls. "They became real persons. The Spanish period became more alive to me than the period I'm living in now. It was like I had been thrown into that world. Maybe that's why I was able to write about it. For the first time, history was like real life, and paradoxically, ironically, I wrote about it as fiction."

Eric S. Caruncho



Excerpt from "The Death of Fray Salvador Montano, Conquistador of Negros"
by Chari Cruz Lucero
First Prize, Short Story in English

It was a plague of locusts. Fray Montano should have seen the signs. There had been three weeks of an unusually dry spell during the locusts' mating season, and the rains that might have controlled the size of their population had not fallen. Then just when the locusts should have come swarming into the *kaingin* fields, they had not and he should have known why. They were making love like locusts. The people were coming into his church and confessing that they had made love like locusts the night before and the night before that. They had, in fact, been making love like locusts every night for the past week.

Once, many years ago, when he was new to this mission village, there had been a pestilence of frogs because brief spells of high humidity and incessant monsoon rains had alternated. It had stopped with what seemed to him inexplicable suddenness, until he discovered why when the whole village started coming to him for absolution because they were making love like frogs.

He had admonished them over and over again that there was only one position that God had intended human beings to do it in.

So what if the summer months would go on well into what should have been the rainy months of June and July? If such vagaries of the weather would bring in a horde of *bayawaks* to attack the village chickens, that would be God's will and nature was not to be tampered with, certainly not with perversions like the *bayawak* position or the frog position and now this – the locust position!

The silence that followed his counsel told him that it had come too late. They had already made love like *bayawaks*. They had done the mating dance, navel to navel and pelvis to pelvis, before he had come and his was probably the reason why he had been sent here. These people had driven his predecessor Fray Duertas desperate with loneliness and suffocating with envy, with all the hopping around they were doing all over the pueblo. That was why the poor man had finally asked to be reassigned elsewhere – anywhere on the island where beasts' and people's lives were not inextricably intertwined – there to wait out what was left of his life with nightmares of frogs making love like locusts, and bayawaks making love like frogs, and locusts making love like *bayawaks*.

But the worst nightmare of all, because it was not forbidden but only to be endured, was when he dreamed that they were making love like people.

Skewering Pop Culture

Writer, musician and filmmaker Quark Henares' award-winning potshot at the celebrity system is just one way for him to tell a good story

ANYONE WHO HAS EVER FELT THE URGE TO THROTTLE THE VERY LIFE OUT OF SOME BUBBLEHEADED TEEN CELEB CAN IDENTIFY WITH "A DATE WITH JAO MAPA," QUARK HENARES' UPROARIOUS TELEPLAY OR SHORT FILM. IT'S ABOUT AN OBSESSIVE FAN WHO LURES THE AFOREMENTIONED YOUNG STAR INTO A DREAM DATE, THEN STABS HIM TO DEATH WHILE HIS VAPID MUSIC IS PLAYING IN THE BACKGROUND.

This skewering of pop icons is second nature to Henares who, like most of his generation, grew up immersed in the amniotic fluid of today's media-generated pop culture. "It's sort of jampacked into you," says Henares. "I grew up listening to rock music. I was already managing bands when I was 14. In school they taught us fiction, but at the same time I was watching movies and music videos."

A communications technology major at the Ateneo de Manila University, Henares sings lead for his band, the euphoniously-named Blast Ople. He also manages three other bands, hosts a weekly indie-rock radio program called "Not Radio" and serves as a consultant to UHF music channel UNTV. But Henares's medium of choice is film. "There are many, many things you can't write about," he says. He has directed a couple of music videos for his bands and has worked with director Marilou Diaz-Abaya. The day after receiving his Palanca award for "A Date with Jao Mapa," Henares flew to New York to study filmmaking at the New York Film Academy.

The difference with film is that the writer may have to go the extra mile to get his story told. In the case of "Jao," which was written for a scriptwriting class, Henares had to convince the real Jao Mapa to act in it, which he did, although somewhat reluctantly. Henares admits that Jao Mapa wasn't really on the top of his hit list. (*"Baka si* Rico Yan *pa, o si* Diether.") But Mapa's brother happened to play in one of Henares' bands, and the lead actress, Marnie Arcilla, happened to be Mapa's ex-girlfriend (talk about motivation). In the end, despite a shoestring budget of P3,000, which went mostly to videotape and pizza, the film was well-received in the short film festivals it played in.

For Henares, who also submitted an entry for the Future Fiction category of the Palanca awards, the common thread that runs through all these media is storytelling.

"Throughout history, people have found different ways of telling stories," he says. "I write both short stories and scripts. Usually, they're worlds apart. Short stories are usually about things you can't possibly see on television. Linear narrative prose is something we can always depend on. The stories may change but that side of us will always be there."

Eric S. Caruncho

Excerpt from **"A Date with Jao Mapa"**
by Enrique Belo Henares
First Place, Teleplay

15. INTERIOR, LE SOUFFLE. NIGHT.

Alexa is sitting down, stirring her iced tea, waiting for Jao Mapa. Slowly zoom in on her, she looks pissed, glances at her watch. Suddenly she looks beyond the camera and smiles.

Jao enters the door, PT Anderson style. He walks slowmo towards cam, cue JSBX. Jao trips. Music scratches. He regains composure, looks at the cam, starts walking and sits down in front of Alexa.

JAO
Hi! Sorry late ako.
subtitle: (Buti naghintay ka)
ALEXA
Okay lang iyon.
subtitle: (I love you)
JAO
Nice dress. You look great. It suits you well.
subtitle: (Maganda ka kaya kung wala kang suot?)
ALEXA
Thank you.
subtitle: (I love you)
JAO
Nag-order ka na ba?
subtitle: (Nalilibugan ka na rin ba?)
ALEXA
Actually I haven't pa, eh.
Subtitle: (I love you)
JAO
Anong gusto mong kainin?
subtitle: (Oh God, gusto kitang kainin.)
ALEXA
Ah. Ikaw, bahala ka.
subtitle: (I love you)

JAO: Okay. Alam mo kanina pa ako gutom na gutom.
subtitle: (Bilisan nating kumain para makapagk----tan tayo.)
ALEXA
Ha ha ha. Ikaw talaga.
subtitle: (I love you)
JAO
So, Alexa, what do you do for a living?
subtitle: (Ang laki pala ng joga mo)
ALEXA
Well, actually kaga-graduate ko lang. Naghahanap pa ko ng trabaho. Eh, paano ba naman, course ko UP Fine Arts e di either graphic design yung papasukan ko o magiging artist talaga ako. Saan yung pera riyan, di ba?
subtitle: (I love you)
ALEXA
(looking at the camera) It was absolute magic. The whole night, nagkuwentuhan kami. At talagang nakikinig siya. Hindi gaya ng ibang dates wherein you say something and mean another. Parehas kami ng wavelength. He was so sincere, no exag. Then and there, kita mo nang namumukadkad ang aming pagmamahalan sa 30 mins na dinner namin.

(She goes back talking to Jao, who was talking to the waiter. They start to talk. Fade to black.)

ALEXA (VO)
Siyempre, may time din kami for some fun.

16. INT. LIVING ROOM. EVENING.

Jao and Alexa burst through the door, making out. Their lovemaking is passionate, almost animal.

JAO
Oh yes, Marnie...
Jao continues kissing her neck.
ALEXA
(looking quite disturbed). Excuse me? Pero tinawag mo ba akong Marnie?

Let's Talk

Chris Martinez finds inspiration in his friends and in his workplace, and the finished product always makes for ripping repartee

CONTRARY TO POPULAR PERCEPTION, CHRIS MARTINEZ'S FIRST PRIZE AWARD FOR THE PLAY "LAST ORDER SA PENGUIN" IS HIS VERY FIRST PALANCA. "DO I HAVE THE PALANCA AWARDEE AURA?" LAUGHS THIS GREGARIOUS 30-YEAR-OLD ADVERTISING CREATIVE DIRECTOR. HE BELIEVES IT'S BECAUSE HIS PLAYS, INCLUDING "PENGUIN," ARE STAGED ALMOST AS SOON AS THEY'RE WRITTEN. IN FACT, "PENGUIN" WAS PREMIERED AT THE UP PLAYWRIGHTS THEATER AND WAS ALSO PERFORMED IN ITS ACTUAL SETTING, THE ENDURING MALATE BAR THAT IS A LEGENDARY HANGOUT FOR ARTISTS AND OTHER ODD CHARACTERS. "I FEEL VINDICATED," MARTINEZ SAYS OF FINALLY RECEIVING THE PALANCA IMPRIMATUR. "I'M A LEGITIMATE PLAYWRIGHT!"

"Penguin" was one of several artistic products which Martinez came up with during a year-long sabbatical from the frenzy of advertising work. He wrote the play when he wasn't taking film courses at UP or making his first short film, *"Bakas,"* which won a Gawad CCP award last year. "Penguin" is a sequel of sorts to an earlier work, *"Sabado sa* Sam's," set in another favorite hangout. But while "Sam's" tackled twentysomething angst, "Penguin" is about the thirties blues—the fears, the problems, and whether a myopic world view is valid in this time of social strife. Penguin is where Martinez grew up, getting to know all the waiters on a first-name basis. In fact, two Penguin staff members are named in the play, along with Martinez's friends, characters he had in mind when he wrote the piece. "I wanted to do a two-hour play with non-stop talking among five friends. They get drunk, throw up, go home, but nothing gets resolved. Nothing ever does during a *gimik*, over a pack of cigarettes or a beer. Things are only resolved when you go home and confront reality, your girlfriend or boyfriend."

A UP graduate who studied business but had been involved in theater since his freshman year, Martinez remains true to his voice by writing about what's most familiar. Thus "Penguin" is peppered with witticisms, talk of sex and drugs, and hilarious swardspeak. His next "obsession": a play about advertising. "People don't know the time, the drama and the effort that go into a 30-second commercial!"

He's also working on his next short film, but while he calls this medium "a new passion," it's still the stage for him. "I've tried writing poems and stories, but they end up as plays. So I'll probably write plays until I die!" **Alya B. Honasan**

Excerpt from **"Last Order sa Penguin"**
by Chris Martinez
First Prize, Full-Length Play in Pilipino

HARLENE: Sige, mag-text na lang tayong lahat. 'Wag na tayong mag-usap.
DYNA: Pamatay chika ito'ng text.
TUXQS: O, ano na? Ano ba'ng chika?
HARLENE: Wala naman.
DYNA: Mario, itanong mo sa kanila 'yung tanong mo kanina sa 'kin sa parking.
MARIO: Etong si Dyna, kanina tawa kami nang tawa on the way here. Kasi pinag-uusapan namin kung ano ang mas kakainin mo? Taeng lasang ube o ubeng lasang tae?
HARLENE: Ano ba 'yan? Kadiri kayo, a.
MARIO: Hindi nga. Ano nga ang kakainin mo? Taeng lasang ube o ubeng lasang tae?
HARLENE: Hindi ako kumakain ng ube.
MARIO: Pero tae kumakain ka?
HARLENE: Ba't ako kakain ng tae?
TESS: Ano ba 'yan usapang lasing, usapang bangag, usapang tae.
TUXQS: Bangi na ba kayo?
MARIO: Di pa 'no?
HARLENE: Pero may dala ka?
MARIO: Syempre syemps. Anong gusto mo?
HARLENE: Wow, may choice ako?
MARIO: Ang choice mo for now, ubeng lasang tae or taeng lasang ube.
HARLENE: Hindi ako kakain ng kahit na ano.
MARIO: Bakit?
HARLENE: Diet ako.
MARIO: At gunpoint, you have to choose, you have to eat. Taeng lasang ube or ubeng lasang tae?
HARLENE: Du'n na lang ako sa ubeng lasang tae. At least, ube pa rin 'yun.
TESS: Ako rin, ubeng lasang tae.
TUXQS: Tae nino ba 'yan?
HARLENE: Yuck!!!
TUXQS: Gusto kong malaman kung kaninong tae. Bakit ba?
MARIO: Tae ni Erap.
TUXQS: Kadiri. Ubeng lasang tae na lang ako.
HARLENE: Yuck! Kadiri.
MARIO: E, kung tae ni Loi.
TUXQS: T——ina, yuck.
MARIO: E, kung tae ni Jude.
HARLENE: Shuckers!
MARIO: Eto ka na. Tae ni Jinggoy.
HARLENE: Yuck! Yuck! Tama na! Ayoko na! Ayoko na makarinig ng tae! Ayokong kumain ng tae. Ayoko na ng usapang ito. Nakakasuka na. Nasusuka na ko. (Magsusuka-sukahan si HARLENE.)
MARIO: O, sige. Suka na lang. Ubeng lasang suka o sukang lasang ube?
HARLENE: Pucha! Tama na. Ang bababuy ninyo, e.
MARIO: Kayo naman. Sensitive pala kayo. Queasy ba ang mga stomach ninyo?
TUXQS: Marcel! Isa pang super sub.
HARLENE: Margarita, one glass!
DYNA: One fourth red.
MARIO: One half white.
MARIO: Vodka tonic double.
DYNA: Habol-habol tayo. Mga lasing na yata 'tong mga 'to, e.

2001 Don Carlos Palanca Memorial Awards for Literature

List of Winners

Futuristic Fiction-English
First Prize Winner: "Turtle Season" by Timothy R. Montes
Second Prize Winner: "Past Forward" by Maria L.M. Fres-Felix
Third Prize Winner: "The Second Coming" by Antonio A. Hidalgo

Short Story
First Prize Winner: "The Death of Fray Salvador Montano, Conquistador of Negros" by Rosario C. Lucero
Second Prize Winner: "White Elephants" by Angelo Rodriguez Lacuesta
Third Prize Winner: "Lyra" by Lakambini A. Sitoy

Short Story for Children
First Prize Winner: "Apo Mayor" by Grace D. Chong
Second Prize Winner: "The Ghost of Maria Matalas" by Irene C. Limpe
Third Prize Winner: "Nor Has Ear Heard" by Marie Louise Kalaw Santos

Essay
First Prize Winner: "Cogito Ergo Sum, or What I Know For Sure I Learned From Mathematics" by Queena N. Lee-Chua
Second Prize Winner: "*Lengua Estopado* Does Not Mean Stupid Language" by Ernie Zarate
Third Prize Winner: "Satellite of Love" by Tad Ermitano

Kabataan Essay
First Prize Winner: "Of Enormous Turnips, Little Books and Life's Big Lessons" by Enrico Miguel T. Subido
Second Prize Winner: "The Greatest 'Trash' I've Read" by Patricia Nicole J. Golez
Third Prize Winner: "A Glimpse of Dawn" by Frances Majella Tan Cabahug

Poetry
First Prize Winner: "Pillage and Other Poems" by Alfred A. Yuson
Second Prize Winner: "The Shortest Distance" by Conchitina R. Cruz
Third Prize Winner: "To the Dreamer of Last Things" by John Labella

One-Act Play
First Prize Winner: No winner
Second Prize Winner: "In the Dark" by Glenn Sevilla Mas
Third Prize Winner: No winner

Full-Length Play
First Prize Winner: "Maragtas: How Kapinangan Tricked Sumakwel Twice" by Leoncio P. Deriada
Second Prize Winner: "The Dreamweavers" by Rodolfo C. Vera
Third Prize Winner: "War Booty" by Christopher Q. Gozum

Short Story-Cebuano
First Prize Winner: *"Ang Bata Nga Dili Matulog"* by Macario D. Tiu
Second Prize Winner: *"Tuli"* by Arturo G. Penaserada
Third Prize Winner: *"Takna sa Kagabhion"* by Ricardo I. Patalinjug

Short Story-Hiligaynon
First Prize Winner: *"Áng Mga Birhen sa Masulog"* by Isabel D. Sebullen
Second Prize Winner: *"Lubid"* by Leoncio P. Deriada
Third Prize Winner: *"Ang Likom Sang Baryo Malikom"* by Nerio E. Jedeliz Jr.

Short Story-Iluko
First Prize Winner: "Ysabelo" by Reynaldo A. Duque
Second Prize Winner: *"Dagiti Maris Ti Bannawag"* by William V. Alvarado
Third Prize Winner: *"Ti Wagayway, Ni Lakay Pedro Salacnib Ken Maysa a Bigat"* by Arnold Pascual Jose

Futuristic Fiction-Pilipino
Unang Gantimpala: "Ampalaya" ni Reuel Molina Aguila
Ikalawang Gantimpala: "Ima" ni Jimmuel C. Naval
Ikatlong Gantimpala: *"Ang Pamilyang Kumakain ng Lupa"* ni Khavn dela Cruz

Maikling Kuwento
Unang Gantimpala: *"Ang Apo ni Lola Soledad"* ni Edgardo B. Maranan
Ikalawang Gantimpala: *"Ang Baliw ng Bayan ng Sili"* ni Roy. V. Aragon
Ikatlong Gantimpala: *"Kalayo"* ni Gil Olea Mendoza

Maikling Kuwentong Pambata
Unang Gantimpala: *"Sandosenang Sapatos"* ni Luis P. Gatmaitan, M.D.
Ikalawang Gantimpala: *"Ang Madyik ni Paolo"* ni Glenda C. Oris
Ikatlong Gantimpala: *"Ang Mahiwagang Kahon"* ni Dencel Limbo-Aquino

Sanaysay
Unang Gantimpala: *"Mga Pilat sa Pilak" ni* Eugene Y. Evasco
Ikalawang Gantimpala: *"Ang Kumbento, Ang Aklatan at ang Casa Tribunal ng Candon" ni* Reynaldo A. Duque
Ikatlong Gantimpala: *"Sari-Saring Paninda" ni* Jing Castro Panganiban

Kabataan Sanaysay
Unang Gantimpala: *"Bagani Ubbog: Paghahanap sa Tatak ng Angkan" ni* Reynaldo Bienvenido R. Duque II
Ikalawang Gantimpala: *"Ang Libro, Ang Mambabasa, Ang Pagbabago" ni* Karen F. Jamora
Ikatlong Gantimpala: *"Huwag Mo Akong Salingin, Indiong Gusgusin" ni* Jefferson C. Capati

Tula
Unang Gantimpala: *"Mga Lagot na Liwanag" ni* Michael M. Coroza
Ikalawang Gantimpala: *"Nakatanim na Granada ang Diyos" ni* Rebecca T. Añonuevo
Ikatlong Gantimpala: *"Ang Paghagilap sa Karaniwan" ni* Eugene Y. Evasco

Dulang May Isang Yugto
Unang Gantimpala: *"Resureksiyon"* ni Jose Victor Z. Torres
Ikalawang Gantimpala: *"Sardinas"* ni Ferdinand P. Jarin
Ikatlong Gantimpala: *"Kumpit: Sa Ngalan ng Krus at ng Kris"* ni Aurora D. Yumul

Dulang Ganap ang Haba
Unang Gantimpala: "Last Order *sa* Penguin" *ni* Chris Martinez
Ikalawang Gantimpala: *"Iraya" ni* Edward Perez
Ikatlong Gantimpala: *"Indio Anakbanua" ni* Allan Libranda Palileo

Dulang Pantelebisyon
Unang Gantimpala: "A Date with Jao Mapa" *ni* Enrique Belo Henares
Ikalawang Gantimpala: "Pick Up" *ni* Althea Lauren R. Ricardo
Ikatlong Gantimpala: "San Nicolas" *ni* Tomas F. Agulto

Dulang Pampelikula
Unang Gantimpala: *"Ligalig"* by Roy C. Iglesias
Ikalawang Gantimpala: *"Pagkatapos ng Paalam"* by Ma. Rebecca R. Arcega
Ikatlong Gantimpala: *"Bayad Luha"* by Edward Mark Meily

by Doreen G. Fernandez

The author, a teacher and scholar, takes pride in having seen the selection process through many times, of listening to great literary voices debate, and of constantly being reminded of what makes writers become

I Was a Palanca Judge

YES I HAVE BEEN, AGAIN AND AGAIN AND AGAIN: FOR THE THREE-ACT PLAY IN ENGLISH, FOR THE ONE-ACT PLAY IN PILIPINO; FOR THE ESSAY IN ENGLISH, FOR THE NOVEL IN ENGLISH, FOR THE SHORT STORY IN HILIGAYNON, FOR THE SHORT STORY IN ENGLISH. I FINALLY REALIZED THAT THIS WAS BECAUSE I WAS THE PERFECT JUDGE — NOT A CREATIVE WRITER BUT A TEACHER AND SCHOLAR, AND THEREFORE NEVER A CONTESTANT, ALWAYS A JUDGE; ALWAYS A BRIDESMAID, NEVER A BRIDE.

I have enjoyed each experience. First of all, there is the buzz of the first meeting, at which the judges are invited by the Palanca family —formerly Mila Palanca Fuhrer; currently Sylvia Palanca Quirino, my former student — to lunch. The buzz is caused by curiosity and recognition: *Ah, kayo pala sa* short story? *Sino ba ang sa nobela?* Screen play? *Kuwento pambata?* And of course, by reunions of old friends and former Palanca confreres.

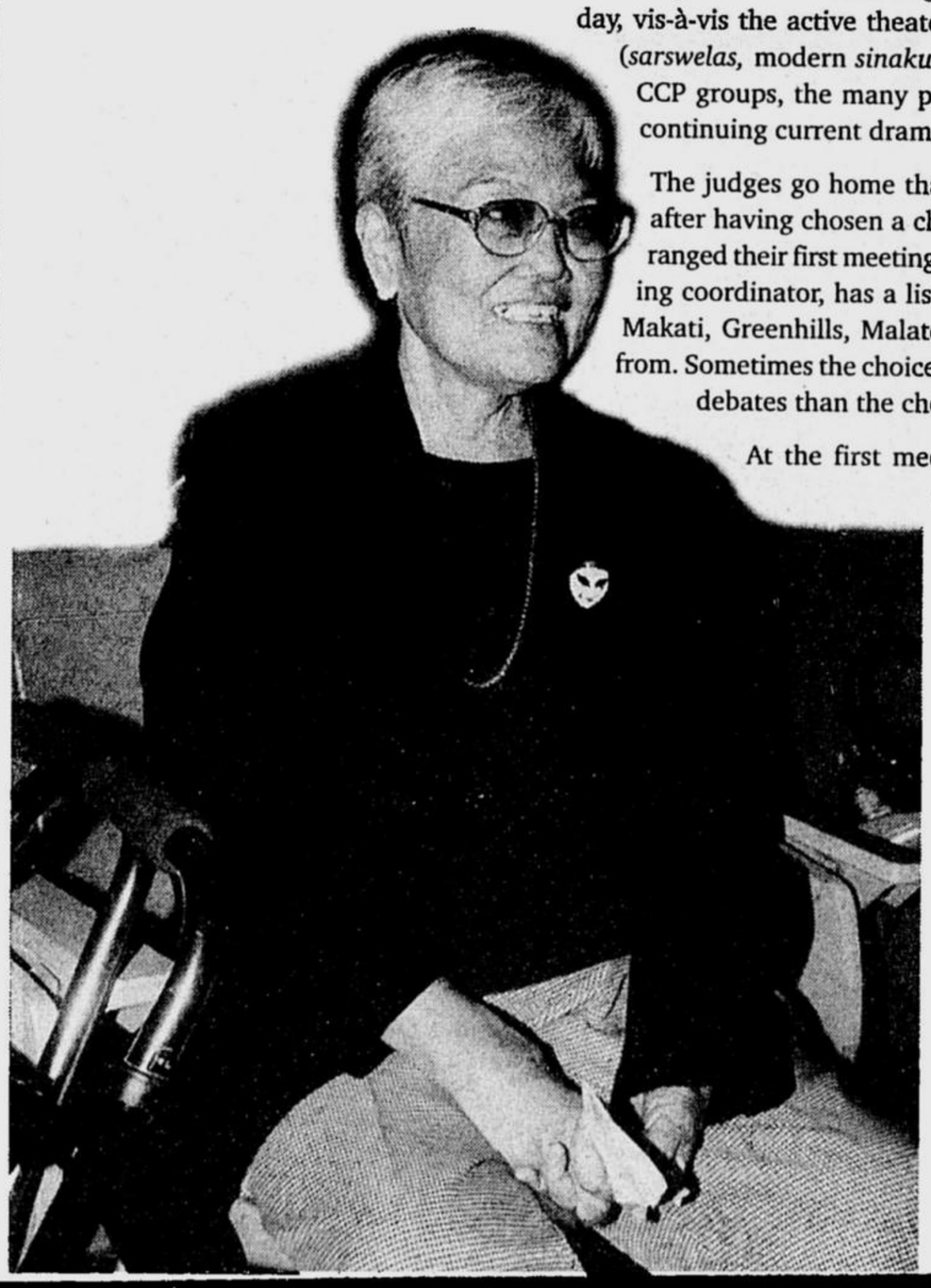
Contests are made by both entries and judges, by the times and the traditions, by past exposure to the Palanca Awards

After a good lunch, the entries are trotted out, encased in envelopes, tied in piles. The year my package contained the three-act plays in English, it was one envelope, with about three plays in it. I looked with amazement and both relief and envy at the piles of poetry entries in Pilipino, which stood almost two feet high when placed on the floor.

One realized then how viable, how active the national language was, as a venue for poetry. And how feeble were the attempts to pursue theater in English. Who would stage a three-act play in English today, vis-à-vis the active theater in the vernacular of the past (*sarswelas,* modern *sinakulos*) and the present (PETA, the CCP groups, the many provincial groups expressing the continuing current drama of Philippine life today)?

The judges go home that day dragging their packages, after having chosen a chairman for each group, and arranged their first meetings. Nemie Bermejo, Palanca meeting coordinator, has a list of restaurants in Quezon City, Makati, Greenhills, Malate, etc. for the judges to choose from. Sometimes the choice of restaurant causes more lively debates than the choice of a chairman.

At the first meeting, the judges are generally expected to have read all the entries in their divisions, and formed opinions about their relative quality. Sometimes the choice is clear: a standout entry or entries, an obvious masterpiece hiding under a far-out pen name, a star whose light anonymity cannot dim. Sometimes the pen name is no disguise, because the writer's style or towering reputation stand out. Sometimes the choice is far from clear, because there are new styles, new adaptations of old forms, new voices. (The joke used to be made that the few days before the Palanca deadline, every typewriter and computer accessible to a writer was occupied, busy spewing out a masterpiece.)



Doreen Fernandez: The joy of being a judge

When the choice is difficult, the entries are carefully re-read, re-screened, quite often debated. Can you imagine the giant voices of Nick Joaquin and Franz Arcellana locked in debate because of strong convictions and positive feelings for different entries of obvious worth? Or picture academics arguing with writers, critical theory and standards jousting with intuition and gut feel.

Sometimes it is difficult to decide worth, and the groups may appeal to numbers for help: let us each rank the entries, and count; the ones that get the lowest totals are the best. But what about a tie? What about the technique of this writer; the take-off from tradition of that one; the new voice heard here; the images; the social context; the significance, importance, quality, etc. etc. Some judges are scrupulous even about the typing rules (margins, type, etc.); some who are adept make charts; others work only by feel or long experience.

Contests are made by both entries and judges, by the times and the traditions, by past exposure to the Palanca Awards. I remember being awed when asked for the first time to join a panel of judges. This, I was aware, was the award-giving body that had given the first poetry award to Carlos Angeles in 1950, for "A Stun of Jewels." And to Rogelio Sicat for the famous, oft-staged "Moses, Moses." The tradition is deep and honorable.

This last year I was on the panel of judges for the Hiligaynon short story. Two of us were academics, one from the UP, one from the Ateneo, both with Ilonggo roots and Western training. The third judge, Quin Baterna, has not only been a judge umpteen times, but is a writer and award winner in Hiligaynon. Tell us, we would ask him, about the language of this entry, about the music of Hiligaynon today as against its past graces, about the power of the language to handle modern technique and subject matter. It was an enlightening experience.

The judging over, one still does not know who won, who the voices are behind the pen names. Nemie will only provide the names when everything is final—signed, confirmed. In the meantime, the writers buzz—*who won? What have you heard?* On e-mail: *Wala bang* leak *diyan?*

When the telegrams go out to the winners, then all is known. The final step is the awards dinner, always on the birth anniversary of the Palanca founder, on September 1 in a large hotel ballroom.

The judges sit, listen and applaud, proud of having seen the process through once more, and of having learned once again what makes writers become and writing flow, and how important recognition can be.

The writers throng, eager not only for the prizes, but for the company of their friends and peers, for camaraderie with or without liquor. The young proudly take their places in the august company of Palanca Award winners, cubs after their first battles. The oft-awarded are as proud to see that they still are the leaders, the kings and queens of this pride of literary lions.

The Word

by Fr. Ruben J. Villote

A **Small** Solution

"The impact of such small projects may not be great, but imagine how great an impact there would be on our social problems if everyone did the little that he could for the persons he is in a position to help"

TODAY, SEPTEMBER 16, IS THE LAST DAY OF OUR MARATHON CELEBRATION OF THE 19TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CENTER FOR MIGRANT YOUTH (CMY).

September 2, 9 and 16 were the red-letter festival days of CMY. I dared to invite three bishops to honor our modest celebration with their presence. Only one promptly said yes; the second promptly excused himself; and the third has preferred to keep silent as of this writing (August 29).

I usually do not blame presidents, celebrities including big politicians, big churchmen and big showbiz personalities for refusing to waste precious time appearing in small pedestrian gatherings like ours.

Neither do I apologize for deliberately keeping my pastoral paradigm and style "pedestrian, poor, powerless and unspectacular."

For 19 years, CMY has always been a "small solution to a big problem." It has no ambition to become a big empire run by a big foundation or corporation that owns big property and big investments. CMY, until today, still squats on a piece of land through the benevolence of Bert and Fely Reyes, presided over by Nanay Luz A. Zafra and energized by the memory of the late Father JP Delaney, SJ and the remnants (anawim) of the old UP Catholic Community.

CMY chooses to remain a "little flock" stewarded by a "little shepherd" on Cordillera Street. When social workers, politicians, academicians, journalists and secular practitioners ask me about my grandiose projects, triumphalist activities, funding and quantitative results, I tell them that I'm not interested in all these. I feel utterly foolish and irrelevant saying that. But to be considered foolish and useless by the worldly-wise, I said to myself, is a kind of spirituality, a way of being a sign of contradiction, a way of being Emmanuel in the Church today.

The late Gerry Gil, journalist, wrote this on Sept. 18, 1992:

Little Solutions

The Center for Migrant Youth, a halfway-house for young (15-21) street people who have just migrated from the rural areas, marks its 10th year today. It isn't a large operation. It serves no more than 20 persons at any given time. This is such a minuscule fraction of the homeless young people roaming the streets of the metropolitan area that one wonders whether a project like this is worth doing at all.

This question does not occur to Father Ruben Villote, who runs the center, and the small group of individuals who support it. They do not see themselves as 'solving' the social problem posed by thousands of homeless young people in the city. Rather, they are doing what they can, within the limits of their resources, for the street youth that they can reach.

The attitude of Father Villote and his colleagues (and, for that matter, people who run or support similar small projects) stands in sharp contrast to the commonsensical notion that great problems demand grand solutions — the notion that makes us expect the government to take massive and speedy action on the wide-reaching problems of our time. Whether it is the short-term problem of getting lahar-threatened people of Central Luzon out of harm's way or the long-term challenge of giving our children an education appropriate for the 21st century, we expect the government to provide the vision, the expertise, the effort and the funding.

The demand that the government must act on problems that affect the entire social system is certainly legitimate. Unfortunately, however, the demand for massive government intervention generally is accompanied by the attitude that the individual can do nothing about these problems.

Worse, this sense of helplessness too often is transmuted into a denial of responsibility: If we, as individuals, cannot make a significant impact on a social problem, we should not be expected to waste our time and our resources trying to do so.

By its very nature, any massive attack on a social problem must pursue the greatest good for the greatest number — and in this process, it must invariably ignore many people who are equally in need. These unfilled needs do not bother those of us who have accepted the notion that great problems demand grand solutions. We take the bureaucratic attitude that occasional injustices are a necessary evil, which we can do little about.

The ethical ideal of seeking the greatest good for the greatest number is unassailable. Yet, this ethical stance is by and large irrelevant to the commitment of Father Villote and his colleagues at the center, who will do whatever they can for the migrant youth that they can reach.

The impact of such small projects may not be great, but imagine how great an impact there would be on our social problems if everyone did the little that he could for the persons he is in a position to help. It is almost as if Father Villote and his colleagues are following the categorical imperative—that a person must act in the way that he wishes every other person in the world must act.

And yet, Father Villote and his colleagues are not very much more generous than most of us. After all, most of us will give freely of the little that we have—to relatives, friends, neighbors and other persons who have some claim on our generosity. The difference between us and Father Villote and persons like him is that they do not ask whether the needy person has a claim on their generosity; for them, a person's need is sufficient claim.

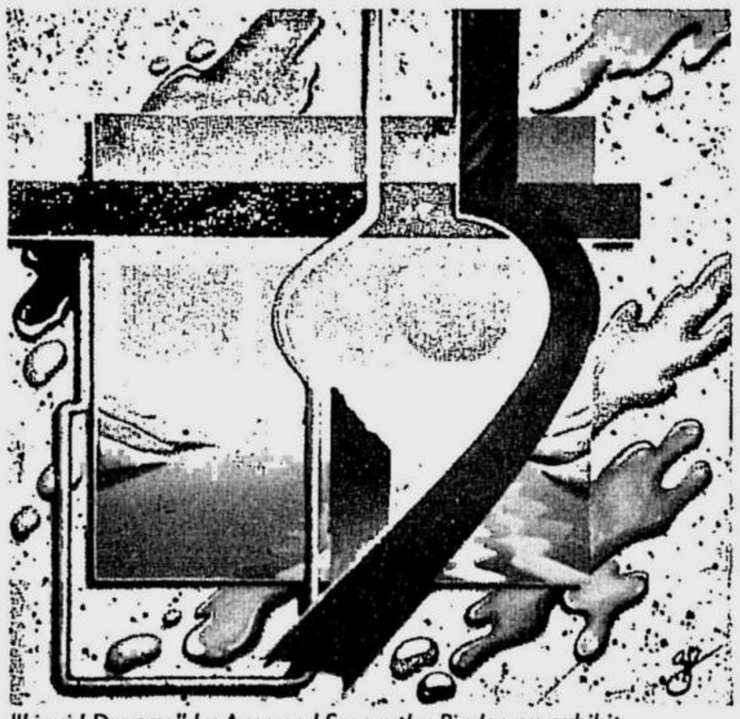
It is their attitude that we should cultivate during this time of crisis. The grand solutions demanded by great problems must be complemented by the little solutions to which the Father Villotes of this world are devoting their efforts.

This Week

Art

Guilty Pleasures, an exhibit of large-scale paintings, mixed media works, sculptures and installations by 26 of the country's leading young artists, until Sept. 24 at the SM Megamall Art Center.

Namit-Namit, Nunelucio Alvarado's exhibit of large figures of full-bodied women in oil, until Sept. 30 at Galleria Duemila, 4/F, SM Megamall Building A.



"Liquid Dreams" by Azra and Samantha Pinder, on exhibit in Baguio City

Landscape, a redefinition of landscape in mixed media and installation manner by UP-Studio Arts Students at Galeri Situ, Ground Floor, Sterten Place Condominium, 116 Maginhawa St., Teachers Village, East Diliman. Ongoing until September 29.

Traces, a solo exhibit by Christine Amador at Avellana Art Gallery, 220 Fresno Road, Pasay City until Sept. 26. For details, call 522-9793 to 94.

Inest Sua Gratia Parvis, a solo exhibit of 15 new still lifes by Cristina Garzón at the Madrigal Art Center, Ayala Alabang until Sept. 29.

From Blue to Earth with Red, Nestor Olarte Vinluan's exhibit of recent works in acrylic, until Sept. 30 at Gallery 3 of the Ayala Museum.

Recent Works, an exhibit of works on ceramic tiles, handmade paper framed on antique windows and masks by Inday Cadapan at the Lobby of the Ayala Museum until Sept. 30.

Rain, a group show by the Wired Group featuring each member's interpretation on the subject of rain, until today at the Ma'I Room of the Ayala Museum.

Onstage

Hiroshima Mon Amour, Marguerite Duras' romantic anti-war drama presented by Dramatis Personae and Alliance Francaise, Sept. 16, 8 p.m. at the Carlos P. Romulo Theater, RCBC Building, Ayala Avenue, Makati City and on Sept. 22, 23, 29, 30, Oct. 6, 7, 13 and 14 at the Pius XII Theater, UN Avenue, Manila. For details, call 412-0617 and 722-4205.

Toreng Garing, a comedy about professors' various pursuits both in life and in the academe presented by Artistang Artlets on Sept. 20-22, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. at the Rizal Conference Hall, St. Raymund's Building, UST. For inquiries, call 749-8954 or 0919-3385640.

El Filibusterismo, Dr. Jose Rizal's novel adapted by Jomar Fleras goes onstage at the AFP Theater, Camp Aguinaldo, Edsa on Sept. 20-23 and at the Jaime Cardinal Sin Auditorium, Paco, Manila on Sept. 29 and 30. All performances at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. For details, call 899-5745 and 896-3503.

Cinema

Topaze, a 1932 film by Marcel Pagnol about a shy and naïve professor who, dismissed by the school director, betrays his moral principles and sets out on a dangerous yet profitable business, Sept. 19, 8 p.m. at the Alliance Ondeo Auditorium, 209 Nicanor Garcia St., Bel-Air II, Makati City. For details, call 895-7441.

Atbp

The **Asian Charlie's Angels**, Asia's answer to the popular crime-fighting trio, is set to premiere exclusively across Asia on Sept. 21 on the cable channel AXN with rebroadcasts on Sept. 22 at 3 p.m., Sept. 30 at 10 p.m. and Oct. 1 at 3 p.m. The Asian made-for-TV movie stars Christy Chung, Kelly Lin His Lei and Annie Wu Chen Chun.

Mobile Gun Defense Course, special classes for an all-women crowd on gun defense while inside a motor vehicle, Sept 22 and 29, 2-4 p.m. at the CBCM Gym, 615 Boni Ave. cor. Sikap St., Mandaluyong City. Registration fee is P700. For inquiries, call 532-6395.

The **Hermitage Reiki Healing Center** (3-6 p.m.) and Reiki Circle, a support group for all Reiki attuned (7-9 p.m.) will be held on Sept. 21 at 2/F, Meditation Room, Benpres Building, Pasig. For details, call 890-5446 or email hotsh@ easycall.com.ph.

The Bureau of Women's Welfare and Development offers **free short courses and skills training** for women aged 18-59. Programs offered are Christmas Decors, Stuffed Toy Making, Quilting, Food Processing and Preservation, Home Aide Service, Basic and Hi-Speed Sewing and Candle Making. For inquiries, call 525-0594.

The MSA Tutorial and Review Center is conducting another set of **review classes for high school entrance tests** from September to October. The review programs are designed to prepare students for exams administered by the Philippine Science High School and other top schools. For inquiries, call 435-6062.

Apoy, Bagyo, Kalamidad: Dibuhong Pambata, an annual poster-making contest for children that aims to show how they can be of help to the community in disaster preparedness. Category A is for children 7-9 and Category B for ages 10-12. Children can choose from a set of disaster types for the subject of their design. Deadline is Sept. 20. For details, call 414-5275 and 929-9822.

The Blue Eagles Gymnastics Academy offers **gymnastics classes** for boys and girls at the Ateneo de Manila High School covered court, Katipunan Avenue, Loyola Heights, Quezon City. For inquiries, call 411-9054 or 920-8672.

Verbena, a Spanish fair featuring dances, songs, special musical numbers, paella making and wine tasting exhibition, presented by the Association of Spanish Professors of the Philippines, Sept. 22, 4-9 p.m. at the Puerta Real Gardens, Intramuros. For details, call 426-6001 loc. 5238.

Drama Sa Klasroom Project, a new alternative way to produce theater wherein performances are done inside the classroom featuring Rogelio Sicat's monologue "Tatalon" as performed by Lawrence Espinosa. Runs from September to March 2002. For details, call 0917-3864907 or e-mail dramaklas@yahoo.com.

Basic Baby Massage Workshop, a hands-on training for parents on baby care techniques for one-year-olds and below, Sept. 22 at the Center for Health and Creative Arts, 59 C. Salvador St., PhilDHRRA Compound, Loyola Heights, QC. For reservations, call 434-5381 or 0919-7091436.

SKYCable i.woman Club members will be treated to free hair and facial treatments, spot massage and discounts to other services at any Piandre Salon branch until Oct. 4. The privilege is open to the first 180 members to redeem beauty treatment coupons at the Marketing Services Department, 2/F Benpres Building, Exchange Road, Oritgas Center, Pasig City. For details, call 910-1577.

Violinist Melchora Regina Medina will be the featured soloist of the Cultural Center of the Philippines' **Filipino Artists Series III** on Sept. 25, 7:30 p.m. For details, call 832-2314.

Pinoy NGA!

by Jess Abrera

X-manila

Liquid Dreams, an exhibit of animated paintings by Azra and Samantha Pinder ongoing until Sept. 20 at the Sanctuary Gallery, Maryknoll, Campo Sioco, Baguio City.

The Sunday Inquirer Magazine welcomes listings of events in and outside Metro Manila. Please send announcements at least two weeks in advance, and include contact numbers for inquiries on schedules and tickets. You can reach us by e-mail at slm@inquirer.com.ph or by fax at 897-4811.

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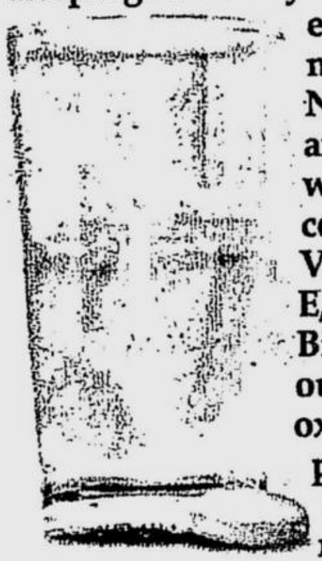

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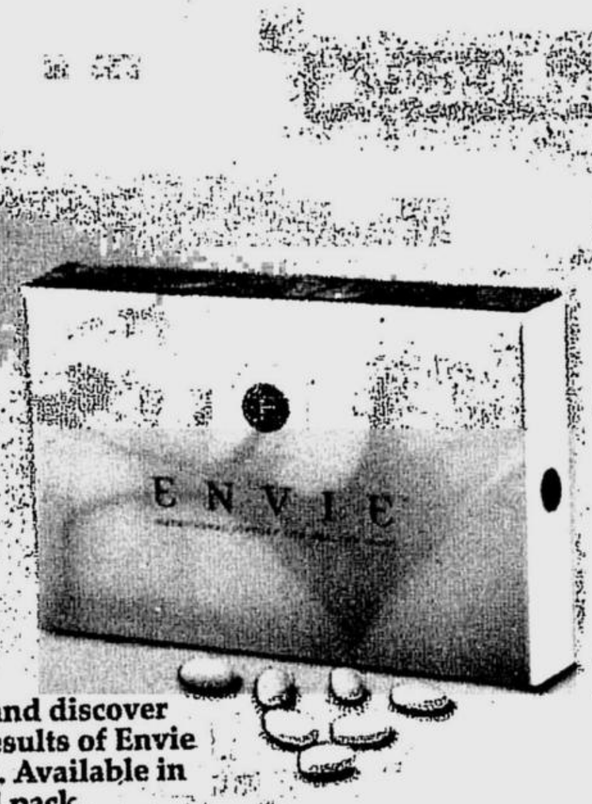

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